(v) GSR 259 (E), dated May 22, 1998 publishing the All India Services (Death-cum-Rctircment Bcnfits) Second Amendment Rules, 1958.

(vi) GSR 40 dated February 21, 1998 publishing the Indian Forest Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Amendment Regulations, 1998.

(vii) GSR 41 dated February 21. 1998 publishing the Indian Forest Service (Pay) Amendment Rules, 1998.

(viii) GSR 230 (E), dated April 30, 1998 publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Third Amendment, Rules, 1998.

(ix) GSR 231 (E), dated April 30, 1998 publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Third Amendment Rules, 1998.

(x) GSR 192 (E), dated April 20, 1998 publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Fourth Amendment Regulation, 1998.

(xi) GSR 193 (E), dated April 20, 1998 publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Fourth Amendment Rules, 1998.

(xii) GSR 96 (E), dated February 27, 1998 publishing the Indian Police Service (Fixation "of Cadre Strength) Amendment Regulations, 1998.

(xiii) GSR 97 (E), dated February 27, 1998 publishing the Indian Police Service (Pay) Amendment Rules, 1998.

(xiv) GSR 98 (E), dated February 27, 1998 publishing the Indian Police Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Second Amendment Regulations, 1998.

(xv) GSR 99 (E), dated February 27, 1998 publishing the Indian Police Service (Pay) Second Amendment Rules, 1998. [Placed in Library for (I) to (XV) *See* No. LT 650/ 98}

V. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961:—

(1) S.O. 34 (E), dated January 12, 1998, publishing the Income-tax (First Amendment) Rules, 1998 regarding leave travel concession.

(2) S.O. 50 (E), dated January 12, 1998, publishing the Income-tax (Second Amendment) Rules, 1998 regarding contribution in Employees Provident fund.

(3) S.O. 102 (E), dated February 4, 1998, publishing the Income-tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 1998 regarding prescription of the basis and manner of computation of profit of housing and other activities.

(4) S.O. 171 (E), dated March 6, 1998, publishing the Income-tax (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1998 regarding amendment in form 2-A.

(5) S.O. 390 (E), dated May 8, 1998, publishing the Income-tax (Sixth Amendment) Rules, 1998 regard ing amendment in form 2.

(6) S.O. 395 (E), dated May 13, 1998, publishing the Income-tax (Seventh Amendment) Rules, 1998 regarding exemption of Transport Allowance from income tax.

(7) S.O. 2542 (E), dated October 11, 1997, notifying the "Sarva Seva Sangh, Scvagram, Maharashtra" for the assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(8) S.O. 2543 (E), dated October 11, 1997, notifying the "Export Pro-motion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi" for the assessment

years 1993-94 to 1995-96 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(9) S.O. 2544 (E), dated October 11, 1997, notifying the "Maharashtra State Council for Child Welfare, Mumbai" for the assessment years 1989-90 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(10) S.O. 2545 (E), dated October 11. 1997, notifying the "Maharashtra State Council for Child Welfare, Mumbai" for the assessment years 1990-91 to 1992-93 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(11) S.O. 2546 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Maharashtra State Council for Child Welfare, Mumbai" for the assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(12) S.O. 2547 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Sight Savers-Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind. Mumbai" for the as-sessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(13) S.O. 2548 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "The Association of the Physically Handicap-ped, Bangalore" for the assessment years 1997-98 to 1999-2000 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(14) S.O. 2549 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Ramakrishna Surada Mission, Dakshincswar, Calcutta" for the assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(15) S.O. 2550 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi" for the assessment years 1994-95 to 1996-97 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(16) S.O. 2551 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "The Bharat Scouts & Guides, New Delhi" for the assessment years 1992-93 to 1994-95 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(17) S.O. 2552 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Gurudcv Sidd-ha Pecth, Gancspuri, Maharashtra" for the assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(18) S.O. 2553 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Shri Gajanan Maharaj Sansthan, SHEGAON" for the assessment years 1991-92 to 1993-94 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(19) S.O. 2554 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Indian and National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, New Delhi" for the assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(20) S.O. 2555 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Shri Ramachantira Mission, Shahjahanpur (U.P.)' for the as-sessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(21) S.O. 2556 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Raja Rammo-han Roy Library Foundation,' Calcutta" for the assessment years 1994-95 to 1996-97 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(22) S.O. 2557 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Indian International Centre, New Delhi" for the assessment years 1997-98 to 1999-2000 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(23) S.O. 2558 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Centre for Advanced Strategic Studies (CASS), Pune" for the assessment years 1995-96 to 1997-98 under

sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(24) S.O. 2559 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Maharashtra State Women's Council, Mumbai" for the assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(25) S.O. 2560 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Pirojsha Godrej Foundation, Mumbai" for the assessment years 1996r97 to 1998-99 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(26) S.O. 2561 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Bombay Humanitarian League, Mumbai" for the assessment years 1993-94 to 199,5-96 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(27) S.O. 2562 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, Indore, (M.P.)" for the assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(28) S.O. 2563 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Medical Research Foundation, Chennai" for the assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(29) S.O. 2564 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "The CP. Ramaswami Aiyar Foundation, Chennai" for the assessment years 1993-94 to 1995-96 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(30) S.O. 2565 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Servants of India Society, Pune" for the assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(31) S.O. 2566 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Swami Shukdevanand Trust, Rishikesh" for the assessment years 1989-90 to 1991-92 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(32) S.O. 2567 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Swami Shukdevanand Trust, Rishikesh" for the assessment years 1992-93 to 1993-94 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(33) S.O. 2568 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Delhi Council for Child Welfare, Delhi" for the assessment years 1995-96 to 1997-98 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(34) S.O. 2569 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Sree Ramkrishna Satyananda Ashram, Jirakpur, West Bengal" for the assessment years 1995-96 to 1997-98 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(35) S.O. 2570 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Mumbai" for the assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(36) S.O. 2571 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Indira Gandhi National Centre Arts, New Delhi" for the assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(37) S.O. 2572 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Sath Sampradya Samrakshani Sabha, Chennai" for the assessment years 1995-96 to 1997-98 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(38) S.O. 2573 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Jnana Prabodhini Samshodhan Sanstha, Pune" for the assessment years 1997-98 to 1999-2000 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(39) S.O. 2574 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Sri Ayrobindo Society, Calcutta" for the assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(40) S.O. 2575 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Dakshineswar Ramkrishna Sangha Adyapcath, Dakshineswar, Calcutta" for the assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(41) S.O. 2576 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Krishnamurti Foundation India, Chennai" for the assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10.

(42) S.O. 2577 (E), dated October 11, 1997 notifying the "Jnana Prabodhini (JP), Pune" for the assessment years 1997-98 to 1999-2000 under sub clause (iv) of clause (23 C) of section 10. [Placed in Library. For (1) to (42) *See* No. LT 424/98]

VI A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 together with explanatory memoranda on the Notifications:—

(i) GSR 486 (E), dated August 27, 1997 publishing the Notification No. 37/97-CE(NT) dated 27.8.97 seeking to extend the provisions of section 4A of the Central Excise Act, 1944 to paints and varnishes falling under headings 32.08, 32.09 and 32.10 with effect from 1st September 1997.

(ii) GSR 487 (E), dated August 27, 1997 publishing the Notification No. 38/97-CE(NT) dated 27.8.97 seeking to provide forty percent of the retail sale price as abatement for the purposes of determining the assessable value on which excise duty in respect of paints and varnishes falling under headings 32.08, 32.09 and 32.10 of the Central Excise Tariff is payable with effect from 1st September, 1997.

(iii) GSR 494 (E), dated August 29, 1997 publishing the Notification No. 55/97-CE(NT) dated 29.8.97 seeking to rescind Notification No. 22/ 97-CE dated 29.4.97 which prescribed tariff value on aerated waters falling under heading No. 22.02 of the Central Excise Tariff.

(iv) GSR 496 (E), dated August 29, 1997 publishing the Notification No. 42/97-CE(NT) dated 29.8.97 seeking to provide fifty per cent of the retail sale price as abatement for the purposes of datermining the assessable value on which excise duty in respect of aerated waters falling under sub-heading Nos. 2201.20 and 2202.20 of the Central Excise Tariff is payable.

(v) GSR 516 (E), dated September 1, 1997 publishing the Notification No. 60/97-CE seeking to amend Notification Nos. 214/86-CE dated 25.3.1996, 4/97CE dated 1.4.97 and 16/97-CE dated , 27.8.97.

(vi) GSR 518 (E), dated September 1, 1997 publishing the Notification No. 47/97-Central •Excise (N.T.) dated the 1st September, 1997 seeking to amend Notification No. 28/96-C.E. (N.T.) so as to also allow a person, duly authorised by the Board of Directors of the Company, to authenticate the said challan books.

(vii) GSR 489 (E), dated 27.8.97 publishing the Notification No. 40/97-CE(NT) dated 27.8.97

seeking to provide fifty percent of the retail sale price as abatement for the purposes of determining the assessable value on which excise duty in respect of footwear falling under heading No. 64.01 of the Central Excise Tariff is payable.

(viii) GSR 495 (E), dated 29.8.97 publishing the Notification No. 41/97-CE(NT) dated 29.8.97 seeking to extend the provisions of section 4A to aerated waters.

(ix) GSR 517 (E), dated 1.9.97 publishing the Notification No. 46/97 dated 1st September, 1997 seeking to amend certain Central Excise Rules.

(x) GSR 554 (E), dated September 18, 1997 publishing the Notification No. 53/97-CE(NT) dated 18.9.97 seeking to extend the provisions of section 4A of the Central Excise Act, 1944 to Toothpastes falling under chapter sub-heading 3306.10 of the Central Excise Tariff with effect from 1.10.97.

(xi) GSR 555 (E), dated 18.9.97 publishing the Notification No. 54/97 dated 18.9.97 seeking to provide thirty per cent of the retail sale price as abatement for the purpose of datermining the assessable value on which excise duty in respect of Toothpastes falling under chapter sub-heading 3306.10 of the Central Excise Tariff is payable, with effect from 1st October, 1997.

(xii) GSR 556 (E), dated 18.9.97 publishing the Notification No. 55/97-CE(NT) dated 18.9.97 seeking to extend the provisions of section 4A of the Central Excise Act, 1944 to detergents falling under chapter sub-heading 3401.20 and 3402.90 of the Central Excise Tariff with effect from 1.10.97 section 4A of the Central Excise Act provides for valuation of excisable goods with reference to the retails sale price.

(xiii) GSR 557 (E), dated 18.9.97 publishing the Notification No. 56/97-CE(NT) dated 18.9.97 seeking to provide thirty five percent of the retail sale price as abatement for the purposes of determining the assessable value on which excise duty in respect of detergents falling under chapter sub-headings 3401.20 and 3402.90 of the Central Excise Tariff is payable, with effect from 1st October, 1997.

(xiv) GSR 558 (E), dated September 18, 1997 publishing the Notification No. 57/97-Central Excise (NT) dated 18.9.97 seeking to amend rule 57F of the Central Excise Rules, 1944 so as to provide that the modvat credit available with the manufacturers of toothpaste on the first day of October, 1997.

(xv) GSR 488 (E), dated 27 August, 1997 publishing Notification No. 39/97-CE(NT) dated 27.8.97 seeking to extend the provision of section 4A to footwear.

(xvi) GSR No. 245 (E), dated the 12th May, 1998 publishing the Central Excise (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1998, to bring some changes in the jurisdiction of certain Central Excise Comrnissionerate in Bihar and Gujarat. [Placed in Library, For (I) to (XVI) *see* No/ LT—426/98]

VII. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry ' of Finance (Department of Revenue) Notification G.S.R. No. 432(E), dated the 30th July, 1997, seeking to impose final anti-dumping duties on acrylonitrile butadiene rubber (NBR) when originating in or exported from Germany or Republic of Korea and imported into India, under sub-section (7) of section 9-A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, alongwith an explanatory memorandum thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-428/98]

VIII. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Life Insurance Corporation Notification No. 81(l)/INS-II/97, dated the 9th May, 1998, publishing the Life Insurance Corporation (Amendment) Regulations, 1998 under sub-section (3) of section 49 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-431/98]

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN (Tamilnadu): Sir, I present the 64th report (in English and Hindi) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table regarding Semi Conductor Complex Limited and Nathpa Jhakri Power Corporation.

Sir, again I stand before you to request you to give me permission to raise a matter of grave importance. There is an escalation of terrorist activities in Tamil Nadu.... *(Interruptions)*... Every day... *(Interruptions)*..

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, that part is not allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please don't come here. ...*(Interruptions)* ...Nothing will go on record.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that a letter has been received from Chaudhary Harmohan Singh Yadav stating that he suddenly fell ill and got admitted to Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi for treatment. Hence, he has not been able to attend the sittings of the House since 28th May, 1998. He has, therefore, requested for grant of Leave of Absence from 28th May, 1998 till the end of the current session.

Does he have permission of the House for remaining absent from the sittings of the House from 28th May, 1998 till the end of the current session?

(No hon. Member dissented)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up the Budget (General), 1998-99. We have taken 16 minutes more than the allotted time for discussion on the Budget. Now, I request the Finance Minister to reply... *(Interruptions)*... Nothing will go on record.

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THE BUDGET (GENERAL), 1998-99 Contd.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Sir, I stand before you here today to put the Government's point of view, by way of reply to the debate, which has taken place here in this House, spread over the last three days. Mr. Chairman Sir, thirty-eight distinguished Members have participated in this discussion, which I am sure, must be a record of sorts. I sat

through most of the discussion myself. I have listened intently to the points which ,have been made by the hon. Members, except a part of last evening, where the call of duty took me to the other House. It will be my endeavour, Sirs to cover as many of the points, as have been raised by the hon. Members, in the course of the reply which I propose to give. I am particularly grateful to the Leader of the Opposition, who set a very high standard of discussion. This House, of course, is known for high standards of discussion on serious issues. But I think, this year, we got off to a remarkably good start with the first intervention itself, which was made by hon. the Leader of the Opposition. The other interventions, as I said, Sir, have also been of a very high quality. They have raised various very important points which must be explained necessarily by the Government if they want to be understood by this House and by the people at large. I would only say, Sir, that most of us, sitting in this House, have been in the Government at some time or the other. Today I can say that perhaps nobody is untouched by office except a few friends, who have not directly participated in Government, but who have supported Governments from outside, and thereby, they must assume responsibility for the acts of omissions and commissions of the previous Governments. So, we have reached a stage in our political evolution, where having participated in Government, we are all weighed down by the responsibilities of office and by the possibility of return to that office, and therefore, nobody today, in any political forum, can afford perhaps to make points and raise issues which they will find difficult to implement when they occupy the chairs of power, and neither can we affored, Sir, to forget the years when we were in office, because it is not a clean slate which I got to write upon. There has been a long history of the economic evolution, economic progress of this country. It is in that context that I am particularly grateful to the hon. Members that they appreciated the difficulties under which this Budget had to be prepared. I was extremely gratified to note that an understanding was there, understanding of the difficult situation which this country faced. I am not trying to apportion any blame, but certainly, I cannot be held responsible for the situation which existed when this Government took office. That situation had to be tackled.

Now, much has been said about the Budget, being pedestrian, the Budget being without vision, the Budget being without direction, the Budget being without any focus; that the Budget has been a rubbish! Now, sir, we have looked at some cold facts to find out whether all that we are saying in the context of the present-day situation is correct or incorrect. Now I am grateful to Dr. Manmohan Singh, Sir. He said, he did not quarrel with the objectives that I put forth in this Budget-Speech. There are ten objectives which I set before me, and then I went on to deal with these ten objectives, in my own way, in this Budget. And hon. the Leader of the Opposition said that he had no quarrel with the objectives. He had quarrel with other issues. He has his point of view to which I will come later.

But the other hon. Member said, "The Budget was anti-poor. The Budget will do nothing for the common man, the Budget will do nothing for agriculture, the Budget will do nothing for rural development, the Budget will impinge adversely on small scale industries!" Now I remember, Sir, that when I was a student, Bill Clinton was a famous tennis player. He had a prescription, when he became a coach, for his young students, and he said, "if you want to impress your opponent, then, if he tries to come to the net, you must pass him at the net; you pass him with one or two shots, then he will get demoralised and then he will go back to the base-line, and that is how you are going to defeat him!" I do not know whether some of the hon. Members here had read the advice of Bill Clinton, but

they tried to do exactly that; I mean, the strength which, I think, is there in the Budget, that is exactly what was sought to be attacked as the weakness of the Budget. I will come to it, Sir, a little later.

SHRI ASHOK MITRA (West Bengal): You arc vulnerable both at the base and at the net!

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: We will sec. We will sec, Mr. Ashok Mitra.

Now, Sir, let us take what the philosophy of this Budget is. Now the philosophy is not something that we drafted in the last ten weeks. The philosophy is some thing which has been laid out quite clearly in the national agenda of governance. And it is a national agenda of governance which binds us in the field of economic policy, as it does in the other fields, and the national agenda of governance has a direct focus. It is not that it is without focus. What is it that we have emphasised? We have emphasised calibrating globalisation, external liberalisation. We have said, "There must be emphasis on issues which matter to the Indian people. Agriculture rural development, small scale industries, housing, infrastructure these are issues which matter to the Indian people and they must receive attention." so, it is not that I have tried to attempt something in a vacuum, bound by the national agenda, as this Government is. I had to prepare' the Budget in the light of the prescriptions in the national agenda. That is what I have sought to do. I don't therefore, accept that the Budget lacks focus, that the Budget lacks direction, that"the Budget doesn't have a philoso-phy. The Leader of the Opposition has not made any charges. I must say so in fairness to him. He has agreed with the ten objectives. The ten objectives have been laid down in the light of these broad objectives. Now what else did I find when I assumed office? I found that the economy is not exactly in the pink of health. This is something which I had said on the first day in the office. I said, "it is not in the pink of health". Again, without blaming him, I am saying that because of various reasons there was a downturn, there was a slow-down and this slow-down has to be tackled. Therefore, this also became a primary concern in the exercise of Budget-making. That is an issue which I have kept in mind. Now what are the assumptions in the Budget? Much has been said about the Budget assumptions, that they are not being clear. I have assumed a rate of growth in the economy of 6.5% to 7%. Now is this a pie in the sky? Is this something which is unrealisable? Is this something which is unrealistic? These are the issues. These are the issues which have been raised. Now what is it that I have imagined? We all know that agricultural production declined by 2% last year. In this year hopefully I am expecting the agricultural production to rife by something like 3% to 4% over the base of last year. We have a new index of industrial production which is the 1993-94 base. The number of products has been increased. This information has been recently published in the newspapers and, according to the revised index, the industrial production of 1997-98 increased by 6.6%. What is it that we are presuming? We are presuming that, according to this revised index, not on the basis of the earlier index, the industrial production will increase by something like 8% to 10%. With the kind of growth which has been recorded in the services sector, I feel that it is not unrealistic to assume a rate of growth of 6.5% to 7%. Inflation has been mentioned here. All kinds of figures have been mentioned. Inflation, for various reasons, to which I will come later, is around 6.5% today. We have assumed 7% inflation. It is on this basis that the GDP growth in nominal terms has been worked out. Now, will these assumptions come true? Or, will they fall by the way side? It is a very legitimate question. Now, when you are preparing the Budget—everyone who dealt with the Budget here and I find quite a few of us here who had at one point of time or the

other had dealt with Budgct-maicing—you have to make your projections. You can- ' not say this will not happen like this, that the monsoon will say, that there will be a massive earthquake, that there will be floods all over the country, that the sanctions will engulf India. You cannot prepare the Budget as a prophet of doom. You have to be an optimist when you are preparing the Budget. The only point which has to be seen is whether the optimism is based on realistic assumptions or unrealistic assumptions. That is the point which has been raised by various hon. Members. I will now come to that. Sir. Sir, I will first take up the expenditure part. I have been accused that I have depressed the expenditure. I have not depressed the expenditure. If you look at the expenditure as a percentage of GDP, it was 16.63 per cent last year. It increased from 15.74 per cent in the previous year, 1996-97 to 16.63 per cent for the obvious reasons that the Government of the day had to take on the burden of the Fifth Pay Commission. So it went up to 16.63 per cent. This year also we have to take on the burden of the Fifth Pay Commission. Therefore, it is a 16.61 per cent. Now 16.63 per cent is the Revised Estimate. I know Shri Pranab Mukherjee made a - point here that I should not compare BEs with REs. I have looked into it. There are not set norms for comparison. Each Finance Minister has chosen his own way of comparing it. At least, I should be given credit for the consistency that I have not picked up the BE figure where it suited me and the RE figure where it suited me. I have been consistent in comparing RE with BE because RE and the actuals of the previous year are the only known benchmarks against which a comparison can be made and the next year this comparison will not be on the basis of BE. It will be again on the basis of RE.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal): Does it mean that he would ignore whatever Budget Estimates he is making now? That means REs would be different from BEs.

SHRI YASWANT SINHA: Sir, every year there are changes in RE as compared to BE. That is a very common knowledge. I cannot stand before the House and say with full sense of responsibility that none of my figures would change. Figures would change. Now the point I am making is that whether these changes will be so drastic that all the assumptions in the Budget will fall by the wayside. That is the point I am trying to make. Therefore, I am quoting these figures of expenditure.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH (Gujarat): Sir, I am not sure whether the Finance Minister has been fully briefed on this issue. He has in some places compared BEs with BEs. For example, so far as the power sector is concerned, it has not been said that the Budget Estimate this year is less than the Revised Estimate of last year. So far as budgetary support is concerned, he has made comparisons between the Budget Estimate of last year and the Budget Estimate of this year. Sir, as a person with some understanding of statistics, I would say that this is not fair.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (Delhi): Sir, the discussion is already over. They cannot interrupt every time. *(Interruptions).* Sir, they can put questions after his speech. *(Interruptions).* They cannot interrupt every time. This is not the way. *(Interruptions).*

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI (Karnataka): Sir,... *.(Interruptions).*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bommai, please sit down. *(Interruptions).*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, they can put questions after his speech. *(Interruptions).*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. *(Interruptions).*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, this is not the way. It has never been done. They can put questions after his speech. *(Interruptions).*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Malhotra, may I say one thing? What you arc saying is correct. But if...

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, this is the third time they have interrupted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the Minister yields, what can I do? The Finance Minister yielded and he put a question. If he does not yield, I will not allow them.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, cannot show the discourtesy of not yield ing to the hon. Members of this House, will only make one point. Sir, I did no interrupt anyone when they were speaking. If I am interrupted time and again, the chain of thought is somehow lost. The hon. Members can make note of the points. We are here. No body is running away. We can always exchange ideas and notes.

I was making a point about expendi-ture-GDP ratio. There is nothing to suggest that there has been depression or an artificial squeezing. If I had wanted to do that, then, maybe, I would have gone back to the more flattering figures which were there when Dr. Manmohan Singh was Finance Minister. But I have not done that. I have been realistic in the assumption of my expenditure figures. This year, this 16.61 per cent expenditure to GDP, takes into account the increase that we have made in the plan expenditure as well. Now, the Plan expenditure, Sir, has gone up by 18.8 per cent over the last year. When I was looking at the figures from 1992-93 till date, I found that excepting one year, which is 1993-94, when the Plan expenditure increased by 19.1 per cent, this is the second highest increase in Plan expenditure. I also had an optionl The result last year was not very impressive. I could have said, "AH right, let us have a three per cent or four per cent increase"—as indeed has happened in some years—and said, "You know, we are keeping our control on expenditure." But I Will make one point clear. This Government does not believe in keeping a control on expenditure by squeezing sectors which should not be squeezed. This is a very important point. There are sectors which have no lobbies. We have talked about this lobby and that lobby. But there are sectors which have no lobbies. Nobody will raise even a whisper about that. So, is that the reason why they should be ignored in a popular democracy? It is because this Government docs not believe in that even at the risk of keeping our fiscal deficit at 5.6 per cent, we have gone ahead and increased the Plan expenditure by this margin of 18.8 per cent. Now, the Plan as percen tage of GDP in the B.E. is 4-46 as compared to 4.29 last year. Then, I will come to the revenue side. On the re venue side, what was the tax as percen tage of GDP? I find that there was a year, 1989-90, when it was as high as 11.09 per cent. Then 1 see that there is a general decline in the tax-GDP ratio. It went on declining and last year it touched 9.36 percent.

In 1993-94, I find that it had touched 9.19 per cent. What is the B.Es tax-GDP ratio? It is only 9.76 per cent. In the light of the fact that it has been nearer 10 per cent even in the decline, in most cases, is 9.76 per cent, on a declined base of last year, unrealistic I will go tax by tax. In the Eighth Plan, the average growth-tax ratio increase was 9.82 per cent. The average of the two years, 1997-98 and 1998-99, last year's R.E. and this year's B.E., is 9.56 per cent. Now, 9.82 per cent is the average of the Eighth Plan. In the light of this, is this average of two years, 9.56 per cent, unrealistic?

Similarly, Sir, even if we compare it against the annual growth rates, the only tax on which I could be challenged that this is not realistic is excise duty. You know, Sir, that we have done, in this Budget, some additional resource mobilisation on the excise side.

Therefore, this increase that I have mentioned is justified. There is nothing, Sir, on the tax which could give the impression that the tax receipts that I

have factored is unreansuc. On the other hand, I would go a step forward and I would say that I have taken a number of steps in this Budget. You have been criticizing the Budget. Perhaps you have not paid any attention to those issues. But I have taken a number of steps and I do not want to repeat them because I read them out in my Budget speech. I have taken a number of steps for better compliance and a point was made here that with such a large middle class, should only 12 to 13 million people be paying taxes in the country? Obviously not. Can't this number be doubled? It can. Therefore, Sir, the other provisions that I have laid down in regard to PAN and GIR, those things will make it extremely difficult for any one to evade tax in this country any more. But I have not taken any credit for all that and said that because the compliance rate will go up, my income tax receipts will go up. I have been conservative. Corporate taxes have generally been rising. Even last year which was a bad year, corporate tax raised by about 15 per cent. Now we expect a better compliance.

We arc taking a steps even in the corporate tax sector for better compliance and I have talked about additional resource mobilisation on excise and custom fund. Sir, therefore, I am absolutely confident that the figures which have been mentioned in the Budget on the revenue side are not at all unrealistic. I would also like to say that if the forecast, *bhavishyavani* says that the economy will not grow or it will grow at the same rate at which it grew last year, if that happens, then I have no hesitation in admitting that some of these tax projections will suffer. But that is not what I am talking. I would like to say, Sir, taking this House into confidence, that the indications, even the prc-Budget indications hold hope. In April and May, the direct tax receipts have gone up by 25 per cent over last year. Some of our estimates of industrial production show, specially in the infrastructure sector that growth is picking up in the month of April. Exports arc not doing fantastically well. But compared to minus ten per cent in April, plus two per cent this year gives us hope. While the trade deficit might be a cause of worry, the fact that non-oil imports have gone up by something like 26 per cent also gives us hope because imports means that industrial activity will pick up. Therefore, I am confident of two things, one, that the projections that I have made of growth in this year, the economic growth, will prove to be correct. Secondly, Sir, on the receipts side, the projections that I have made will stand me in good stead. I was looking at the figures for PSU disinvestment. What Is the figure that I have taken; It is Rs. 5000 crores. It was Rs. 7000 crores in the same year but the performance has been very uneven. Last year, as against the revised estimate of Rs. 7000 crores, we collected Rs. 906 crores only. But I would like to say, Sir in all humility that this is the first time in the Budget speech we have mentioned the names of the undertakings which we propose to disinvest. Why we have done it is because I was backed by a Government decision. The Cabinet of this country had already taken a view in regard to those 400 Units. This was prc-Budget. The Budget is not all moonshine. It is not that I am taking a pot shot in the dark. I am backed by that and the other steps that we are taking for which our friends from the Left arc angry with me because I have not factored them in. I have not taken into account the disinvestment of the Indian Airlines. I have not taken the disinvestment in rcgared to which the recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission arc already with the Government. So, Rs. 5,000 crores is at best a very conservative figure and I hope that, as the year goes by, we will improve upon that.

Last year, Sir, we know, as I was saying, for various reasons things did not work out well for my predecessor and there were problems. But there arc other instances where things have not worked

out. The hon. Leader of opposition is sitting here. He was the Finance Minister. What happened in 1993-94? The fiscal deficit, which was projected at 4.6% shot up to 7.4% at the end of the year. It happens. Last year it was projected at 4.5%. It shot up to 6.1%. We do not know yet what the actual figure will be. When some extraordinary thing takes place in the course of the year, which the Finance Minister can in no way take into account, then some of the projections can go wrong and some of those projections have gone wrong in the past. I will not be the first Finance Ministcr not that I am admitting that my projections will go wrong. But that is not a charge which can be levelled at me at this point of time. It can only be levelled at me at the end of the year, that my projections went haywire because they were unrealistic. And then, we will sit down and discuss them. We will all be around to discuss those issues.

Sir, it has been pointed out that the Budget is inflationary. It is true that the rate of inflation has gone up. The wholesale price index has gone up and I have been carefully monitoring the price index. What has happenned? Why has this gone up? It has gone up largely because of what happened on the weather front this winter and at the end of this winter. We are all aware of that. As a result of that, what has happened? The prices of primary articles like foods and vegetables have shot up. Potato prices, Sir, have gone up by 315%. Now, should we crib about that! I will be the last person to crib because there was a year, the last year, when potato prices had crashed, when we know that our farmers had to face untold hardship, when the potato crop rotted in the fields. Now, if they arc getting a good price, I am not going to crib. I am not complaining. Fruits and vegetable prices have gone up. The other prices which have gone up are the edible oil prices. Why edible oil? When Dr. Manmohan Singh was the Finance Minister, very beautifully he constructed a system wherein he put edible oils on the OGL— that, whenever prices shot up here, the importers can import and bring the prices down. Now, we import from East Asia. We know that. And this year because of the El Nino Effect on East Asia, the prices there have also remained high. Therefore, imports are not able to depress prices here. That is another contributory factor. But the point which I would like to make is that in the inflation trend today, there is nothing which can give me cause for concern that this is going to continue. If there is a secular rate of inflation, I would worry. But these arc all seasonal facors which will be taken care of. Now, we also know we have factored in an M-3 growth of 15 to 15.5%. It is not excessive. Nobody can say that it is excessive. We have had a growth of over 17% last year. We know that if M-3 has impact on prices, it impacts on prices with a lag. So, this year there may be some volatility because of the growth of M-3 last year. That is why despite many people advising me to the contrary, I decided that we must keep the fiscal deficit as much under check as possible. Despite the fact that Plan expenditure has been raised, specially infrastructure expenditure has been raised we have been able to keep fiscal deficit at 5.6 per cent. Therefore, I don't think at this point of time there is anything which will lead to the kind of forebodings which have been voiced in this House, and inflation will be kept under check. We will constantly monitor inflation and I can assure the House that there is no way in which inflation will be allowed to rob the poor, create hardship for them because we are as much concerned for them as anyone else is.

Now, Sir, one point — apart from all these which have been made to say that the Budget is unrealistic — is the issue of sanctions. Member after member has said that we have not taken into account the impact of sanctions. Some people have been more realistic in their criticism; some people have been somewhat far away from the reality. Now, we must

understand, 'Sir, what exactly has happened post-May 11th, post-May 13th. The only country which has in a legal sense imposed sanctions on us is the United States of America because under their 1994 Act, the famous Glenn Amendment, they have no alternative, no option except to impose sanctions. So, they have imposed sanctions. I think it was Mr. Pranab Mukherjee who was talking about *dual-use* technology. The *dual-use* technology has always been under restriction — the Exim Bank, OPEC. What do the sanctions say? The sanctions say, "The US banks shall not lend to the Government of india." But Sir, the Government of India is not in the market for borrowing. We all know that we arc not borrowing in the market. We arc not dealing with private banks. All the borrowings that we make arc cither from Government sources bilaterally or from multilateral institutions. Now, in all these weeks which have passed, the United States of America. Sir, has not yet defined the scope of sanctions. They arc still, we are told, working on it. They have not defined the scope of sanctions and there arc many things which remain nebulous, vague, unclear. Then, what else has happened? What else has happened is that there are some countries which used to extend bilateral assistance — Overseas Development Assistance, as it is called — some of them have said, "We arc freezing or deferring new projects." — including the World Bank, the World Bank has not said, we are rejecting your proposals. The World Bank under whatever influence has said, "We are deferring the consideration of these proposals." Now, we all know the huge pipeline of approved projects which is there. In fact, questions have been faiscd in both Houses of Parliament about utilisation of external aid and we have always found that we are far below the utilisation levels. So, there is a long pipeline and any project which is held up today and which is finally rejected, if that project is in the Budget, then the impact will be felt only in period of 12 to 18 months when it comes through the pipeline and then stops. In this year when all the on-going projects have not been effected, what is it that I could do in the Budget? I had two options: one, I could postpone presentation of the Budget on the first of June. I would have told the Parliament that I am not presenting the Budget until the whole range of sanctions arc clarified and then I will come and present. This was one option. The other option was to dream about sanctions and let my imagination fly that this will be the impact of sanctions and then factor that in the Budget. Where would I be if I had done either of the two?

Mr. Pranab Mukherjee had a very important point. He said that they may not have an impact on the Budget yet they will have a general impact. I agree with him. There will be a general impact. But there are a lot of things which arc having a general impact. These are things over which we have no control. When the East-Asian melt-down took place, then a lot of things happened in this country over which we had very little control and we were trying to manage that situation, whichever Government was in power at that point of time. What happened? We were discussing the value of the rupee in this House the other day. There are fresh developments in our neighbourhood, in Asia. When we talk of globalisation, when we talk of integration with the world we cannot say that it will be a one-way street that integration will take place only when it is useful, beneficial for us and integration will not take place when it is adverse. Can we say that? Is that the kind of globalisation that the world will accept? If we have globalised, we have to pay the price for that globalisation. And then these things will have an impact. Whenever Japanese Yen crashes and Hangsen crashes in Hong-Kong, it is bound to have some impact on the Bombay sensex. It is bound to have, some impact on the rupee. This is the price we must pay for globalisation and that is why we said that we must calibrate globalisation. We must first build up our

strength so that we can face the world so that we will not be taken for a ride, so that we will not be black-mailed, so that we will not be adversely affected by storms which will rise outside this country over which we would have no control. This is something that we have to take in to account.

Therefore, as far as sanctions are concerned, I would like to assure the House that there is nothing more I could have said except what I have said in my Budget Speech that I do not think that thcy will affect our economic development in the long-run. Sir, I would also say that if some countries were to impose harsh sanctions on us—of which there is no evidence at present—this nation as a whole will stand united as one person. Then, there will be no Opposition, there will be no Treasury Benches. We will all be together in facing that and that is the strength which fortunately this country has and, therefore, it gives me confidence that then and if they come out with whatever they plan to come out with, I will take the Parliament into confidence and we will jointly work out the strategy to meet the challenge of the emerging situation.

Now I come to implementation of policies. Policies are all right. It is important. If we fail in implemention there is no point in making good policies and in order to streamline implementation, what is it that I have said in the Budget? I have said that there is a plethora of schemes of employment today. Go and ask any officer in the field. He will not even be able to tell you how' many employment schemes there are. Now, we have said that we are going to streamline them into just two schemes: self-employment and wage-employment. Only two kinds of schemes so that everybody understands that—there is wage-employment and there is self-employment.

Then I have said about Watershed Development Programme. Kamlaji was talking about recharging ground-water resources and I told her to read one paragraph ahead of it and she would find what I have talked about Watershed Development, how this is going to help. I do not have to go into the details, Sir, but I would say that until and unless ' agriculture, which is dependent upon rain, the rainfed areas, are taken care of, we will not have a second green revolution in the country. There is no point; there is no way we can do it. And that is why this Government is putting so much emphasis on water-shed. I would not say that we have made all the arrangements for a vast country like India in this year's Budget. But, we have made a beginning. I am grateful to Prof. Alagh that he has recognised the importance of it and he has found this particular aspect of the Budget agreeable. This is what we plan to do. Water-shed is distributed over three or four Departments. We will combine it and make it one powerful scheme of water-shed development in the country. Then what is it that we are saying? We are saying now 'Plan' and 'non-Plan' — a very important step of far-reaching importance — and we take 'Plan' as good and 'non-Plan' as bad; 'capital' as good, 'revenue' as bad. This is all artificial. I will plead with all of those—Dr. Manmohan Singh, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Mr. Ashok Mitra and Prof. Alagh — who have dealt with this subject that this is an artificial distinction on the basis of which we have been carrying on each year's Budget. So, what do I propose to do? I propose to appoint a task force which will go into this question. We must have two kinds of expenditure,, one is 'Development' and the other is 'non-Development' and we must be able to say clearly that this is 'Development*. They are crying hoarse about subsidies — not here but elsewhere. But, if we are giving subsidy on fertilisers, is that not a development measure? Will anybody disagree with me on this issue here. That is something which is helping the farmers to produce better. So, Sir, this is 'Development' and 'non-Development*. Then

again we have a system in which we have a plethora of Central and Centrally-sponsored schemes. Again, ask any Develop-ment Officer in the field, he will not be able to name out them. He will have to go through his files and papers to tell you as to which are the various schemes. Now, what is it that we have said? We will assign this responsibility to the same task force, to have them put together. Why should we sitting here in Delhi decide as to which village will have Indira A was, whether they will make roads, how they will arrange drinking water, etc? Is this the responsibility of the Central Government? Or is this the responsibility even of the State Government? When we have gone ahead with our Panchayati Raj institutions, should we not leave it to them to decide their own fate? We can say, "This is the slew of schemes? you go ahead." Let them decide whether they want drinking water first or whether they need a road first or whether they need a school-building first. Let us decentralise and give this power to them. And it is with this intention that we have made this beginning in the Budget that we will look at all the Central and Centrally-sponsored schemes and we are going to streamline them so that implementation improves. Again, Sir, the concept of the Monitoring Officer for foreign investments. When I was going to Washington to attend the Fund-9 meeting in April, I was told that I must meet them because they are very scared as to what would this Government do to foreign investment. I went and met them and their doubts were smelted. But, I must tell the House, through you. Sir, that there was nbthing that I said cither in Washington or in New York or in London which was beyond the brief of the National Agenda of Governance. We invited them over in a number of areas which are of interest to us. I have said in my Budget Speech that foreign investment has a role to play. Nobody is denying that. It is with that intention that we arc trying to streamline the procedure and I have decided to assign the responsi-

bility *of* project clearance to the Monitoring Officer of the administrative Ministry. He will not merely monitor the clearance of a project only at the Central level, but he will also liaise with the State Governments to make sure that there is no hassle in this regard. So, this is what we have done. Now it has been pointed out here that the Budget is anti-farmer. I do not even think of responding to this charge because I have done so much for the farmers in this Budget. I think it will perhaps be inappropriate if I took this criticism seriously. Sir, I must respond to it and say as to what are the various measures that we are going to take to promote farmers. I will draw the attention of the House only to one aspect, that is, for the first time we have thought of a system of Kisan Credit Card. The whole purpose is to enable the farmer to be able to drawn not only money but also to take advantage of the banking system. Large sections of our farming community today arc not part of banking system. Through this card, we will draw them into the banking sector so that they can take full advantage of this.

Now, another point which has been made is, it is anticommon people. I did not come cither from London or New York. I also live in this country. I also interact with the people. I also have the concern of the common man close to my heart. Therefore, in the Budget, we have taken a numebr of steps through which we are going to help the common man. Mrs. Shabana Azmi was talking about slum-dwelling units. If you look at the programmes, both in the rural and urban areas, that we have at the expenditure as well as on taxation front, one of the most significant advances made in this Budget is on the housing front because we want a spurt of activity on the housing front including provision for slum-dwellers. I have given a number of concessions so "that this comes up in a big way. They are not given just like that but they are given to meet an important social need of our people. Sir, housing is also a sector which

will generate economic activity. It is with these twin objectives in mind, we have made all these arrangements to keep up our promise of giving two million houses during this year.

I would like to say to my friends, especially to the Left Parties what I have said with regard to P.S.Us. You have said that it is anti-worker. Let me assure you that I represent the constituency...

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal): It is anti-national.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: You also said, 'Anti-national.' You can choose whatever words you like. I am not going to join a debate with you on that because we can all be harsh with each other. That is not my intention. It is not my intention to be harsh towards anybody but what I am saying is,—I am making this point in all sincerity and in all humility but also with all emphasis at my command—is there any point in carrying on with undertakings which have repeatedly been held as unviable or unrevivable? The worker wants to work. He does not want to sit down at home and collect his wages once in a month or once in three months or whenever he gets his wages. He wants to work with his hands. He wants to use his skill and there can be nothing more deadening, there is nothing more stiflying than keeping them at home and giving them their wages. This is exactly what "we have done in respect of a number of undertakings. Therefore, I think, we are not doing any harm to any *one...(interruptions)...* By saying this, we are giving you... *(interruptions)...*

SHRI JIBON ROY: Sir, the point is ... *(interruptions)...*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: You can raise your point after I finish my speech. I am giving you a very good package. Take it and start a new life. I have said in my Budget speech that for all those who have put in thirty years of service in any undertaking, I am prepared to give them five years wages. Let them go, we will give them. Sir, most of the people, after completing 30 or 35 years of service, will retire from their service. They can have a good life after retirement. For all those, we have come out with a scheme which will enable them to make a new beginning, a fresh beginning. It is not anti-worker. I come from an area where most of my voters are workers who work in coal-mines. I cannot be anti-worker or anti-national—Jibonbabu can say whatever he likes. But that is a charge. I reject it with the contempt which it deserves. If we were anti-worker—this Government is in office for less than three months—how can you expect the steps we have taken at some cost to ourselves to revive a watch unit of H.M.T. at Srinagar? We have taken steps, a mention has been made here, in this House by our T.D.P. friends, at a large cost to the Government of India to revive and streamline the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam, the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. Rs. 791 crores are being converted into a non-cumulative preference capital. This the kind of feeling that we have. We have restructured main-frame computer unit of the Electronics Corporation of India, which had gone into problems. I would like to assure the House that if any unit can be revived, this Government will go out of its way to revive that unit...*(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. Now it is already 1 'o' clock. Should we continue it and have lunch at 1.30 p.m.?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir, we can continue.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: So, Sir, there is nothing which can remotely be described as anti-worker. I personally feel that there is a very major pro-worker scheme which we have envisaged in this Budget. And I am quite prepared to, join a debate with anyone on this issue. I am prepared to go to Calcutta, I am prepared to go to Durgapur, I am prepared to go to Ernakulam, or wherever you want, I will go. I will also meet workers. I will also explain the point of view of the

Government. We would like to take them into confidence. And we would like to go ahead with this.

Then, we have made some points on the PSU reforms, for which we have been criticised. The criticism did not come from this side, the people who were in power until 1995-96. The criticism mainly came from here, that we should not disinvest up to 26 per cent. *{Interruptions)...* I know it. I listened intently to what Prof. Ashok Mitra said and I am sorry to note that his script did not change from when he must have first discussed the Budget in this House till this Budget on which he intervened. The script remains exactly the same ... *(Interruptions)...*

SHRI JIBON ROY: Sir, there is a great change. They have never said ... *(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. He has not yielded ... *(Interruptions)...* Let him finish first, then you can ask questions.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: As I said, during the discussion in this House, poison darts were thrown at me. But, I did not protest because this is a part of Parliamentary democracy. But, why did you people get so angry on just one little cut and one little thrust ...*(Interruptions)...*

MR CHAIRMAN: Please sit down ...*(Interruptions)...* Please sit down ...*(Interruptions).* ..He has a right to speak. You should listen to him. When you speak, he should listen to you.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I would only recommend that my learned colleagues on the left should go and study the Companies Act. It clearly lays down the rights of anyone who owns 26 per cent shares in a company. Anyone who is familiar with the Companies Act would say that 26 per cent shares give you a kind of role which — I would again say with all sense of responsibility — this Goverr ent wants to have; But, we have also said that we will do it only in non-strategic industries. We are prepared to have any philosophical debate on this issue because we hold a view which has been held for a long time. It is not something that we are adopting today. And when we have a chance to be in the Government, we will certainly follow our policies and, I am sorry to say, not your policies.

Then, it has been further said that the Budget does not deal with exports. We are concerned at the decline of exports last year, decline in the rate of growth. But, there are signs that it might revive and pick up, as you go along. But, Sir, I would request the hon. Member to please remember one fact, and, that is, that every year the Budget precedes the export-import policy, but this year the export-import policy, for various reasons, has preceded the Budget. My colleague, the Commerce Minister, has come out with an export-import policy which has taken care of a large number of issues which confront exporters.

I would say that is not the end of the world. It is not the end of our responsibility, as far as exports are concerned. Exports continue to be very precious and we realise the importance of exports. Therefore, Sir, we will continue to do whatever is needed in order to make sure that export growth taken places according to the targets that we have laid down. I will merely draw the attention of the House to one very importance point in the Export-Import Policy where we have reduced to one crore the threshold under the EPCGA (Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme). From 20 crores we have brought it down to one crore. Anybody can import one crore worth of duty-free capital goods to set-up his export promotion unit. And what else have we done? We have reduced this threshold to ten lakhs for computers. Why? Anybody sitting in Ghaziabad, Bareilly or Nellore, anywhere in the country can operate on that and can produce software for export.

That is the reason why we have reduced it.

I know that in the discussion the point of employment came up. I would like to tell you why it is that we have given importance to information technology. Why is it that the Prime Minister is giving so much importance to it? Why is it that he says, we must be super-powers in information technology? It is for the simple reason that this holds the potential for growth and employment in a way, which is unknown. It is something about which, all of us probably cannot even imagine as to how many doors it will open for this country. That is why we have put emphasis on that.

We have taken a number of steps, announced a number of steps in the capital market. A point was made that capital markets are not doing well. I would not go to the extent of saying that we do not care about the capital market; we do not care about stock-exchanges. We do care, to the extent to which they behave in a responsible fashion. I was looking at the graph of the last three years. I found that the fluctuations have been violent. No responsible stock market behaves in such a violent fashion. Profit booking is a legitimate concern. But, I am sure that the number of steps which I have announced in the Budget including the trading derivatives will create the opportunity, will take some time to sink in. And once the external factors settle down then it will be possible for the capital market to come back to normal.

Now, Sir, another point which has been made is that the *Samadhan* Scheme is another VDIS. It is not. I am quite clear in my mind, it is not. It is very' unfair to compare it with the VDIS. *(Interruptions)* It is not. You are absolutely mistaken. If you read the Finance Bill then all your doubts will be put to rest. *(Interruptions)* I have read. You have not read. I have read the finest print. Sir, the *Samadhan* Scheme is meant for incomes or taxes which are already above the ground. They are not concealed; they are not hidden. They have already been assessed and that is why they are in dispute. Now, the disputes, we know, have been going on for years. It goes on, on and on. I am most indifferent because I am not paying it out of my pocket. I am not paying for that litigation. The powerful people may be sometimes at the other end. It is only the small man who get grinded in the pro-cess. Otherwise, the litigation goes on merrily. We have tried to find a way to declog this system by this Samadhan Scheme. I have not said, I am going to get Rs. 10,000/-, Rs. 5,000/- or Rs. 20,000/- crores out of this. I have not taken any special amount in my Budget for this because revenue was not uppermost in my mind. What was uppermost in my mind was to declog the system, to create a system which will not lead to further litigation. If we have - as I proposed - a taxpayer-friendly approach, this kind of litigation would be avoided. We have taken a number of other steps also.

Sir, even this 'Saral' has been rub-bished. They are saying: 'what is this Saral?' This is the first time, Sir, it is for the first time in the country, that we have just a one-page form for personal income-tax. Just one page. I can sit down and fill it up. Anybody can sit down and fill it up. I have seen it in other countries, a large number of young students filling it up. You don't have to run to chartered accountants. You don't have to go to the consultants to fill up the form. This is a simple form which anybody can fill up. If I have more, in the sense that I have a complicated source of income, you need additional information. But, for the majority of the people, this 'Saral' form would be a great boon.

What have I said? I have said that one does not have to run to the income-tax office to collect the form, fill it up and deposit it there. When the time comes to fill up the form, we will make sure that our officers travel to the various areas,

localities, in the cities. They will go, distribute the form and ask them to deposit the money wherever it is to be deposited, come back and collect the form. What else can be more simpler than this, Sir? It is with this view that I am confident that our compliance will increase and that it will be possible for us to get more realisation through income-tax.

In deference to hon. Member, Shri Salve, I would now take up the points raised by him. He had raised a number of points. He is a chartered accountant. I am not. I dare not corss swords with him. But I will endeavour to offer some explanation for the points he had raised. He said that I cannot tax gift at the recipient's hands because gift is not inocme. I am, afraid, Sir, I have the legislative competence to tax gift as income. It is by virtue of that authority that I am doing it. We have been made sure to have taken the best legal opinion possible on this.

What is it that I have done? I have abolished gift tax. I have said why I have abolished gift tax. But I have said that I will charge it as income at the other end. All the present exemptions will remain. But what will not happen, Sir, is that the people who used to receive gift within the exemption limit and say that they have built up a capital, would not be able to do it any more.

Sir, there was a lot of misuse of this gift tax. As the donor was not required to pay tax because it was within that limit, and the donee was not being charged either, what was happening was, a lot of people were showing black money as gift coming from various sources, all of them beyond the tax net. That is what we have plugged by this.

SHRI LACHHMAN SINGH (Haryana): What about Rs. 30,000/- exemption?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: All the existing exemptions will remain. The other point Shri Salve mentioned was about the educational and medical institutions. I would like to draw your attention to the observations of the Public Accounts Committee (1994-95). In their Hundrcd-and-second Report, they have strongly enjoined upon the Ministry of Finance to seriously consider the possibility of bringing them within the scrutiny net, under section 10(22) and 10(22) (1). They had recommended. I would like to submit. What is it that we are saying?

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE (Maharashtra): Did they withdraw the exemptions?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: No, they did not. I am not withdrawing the exemptions. It is absolutely wrong to say that I am withdrawing the exemptions. I am merely saying: 'You file a return'.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: Did they withdraw the exemptions under this section?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: No. I did not say that. They said that we must look at it, we must examine it, because it is being misused. I can tell you that in a number of instances, a lot of money so collected, so exempted, has been used for commercial purposes. It has been used to buy shares. It has been used to take over companies. Is this the kind of system you want to run? *(Interruption)* I am acutely aware of it. What is it that I asking them to do? I am saying: 'You file a return. Aren't the political parties in the country, for years and years, filing returns? Aren't we filing Nreturns? Every political party in this country has to file a return. Whether they are subject to tax or not is another matter. We have to file the return. If I am telling somebody, "I will give you exemption, but let me know what your income is and how you are using the income," what wrong am I committing? I am merely saying that I must look at it because these moneys should be used for the purpose for which they arc being collected. They should not be misused for commercial purposes. It is with that end that these amendments have been made. I hope they will satisfy the hon. Member.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: If you yield .....

SHRI YASIIWANT SINHA: I will answer your queries at the end.

Sir, I also want to say that I have received a very large number of representations on a specific indirect tax proposed in the Budget. I have been meeting one delegation after the other. I am aware of some of the difficulties which they have brought to my notice. I want to assure the House that we shall study all these representation very carefully and consider whether any modifications arc needed at the time of the consideration of the Finance Bill or earlier. In the meantime, the Revenue Department has been instructed by me personally to make sure and to take special care to sec that newly assessable enterprises arc not harassed in any manner. I will plead with the Members that if any case of harassment comes to their notice, to bring it personally to my notice. I assure you that we shall take the most stringent action. The intention is not to harass anybody. I have repeatedly said that I wanted a tax-payer friendly administration.

Sir, in the end, I want to say that the Budget has been conceived in terms of the philosophy which this Government represents. The Budget has a definite focus, and that focus is the common man, the rural and the urban poor of India. This Budget has a number of steps which will impart growth and momentum to the Indian economy. I am absolutely confident that when I shall be dealing with you the next year, I shall be coming before you with a better performance than what the figures in the Budget show. That is where the real proof lies, in the eating, and not in the projection. I am quite confident that I shall be able to do better than the figures that I have mentioned in the Budget.

With these remarks, I commend the Budget to the House.

SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN (Gujarat): I am thankful to you, Sir. I am also thankful to the Finance Minister for he has improved the Voluntary Retirement Scheme, particularly for the sick industry workers. I want to say that from the present 45 days he has increased it to 60 days for those who have completed 30 years of service. But, today, in the sick industry, most of the employees arc those who have completed less than 30 years of service. Those who have completed 30 years arc only 10 per cent of the total employees. This Scheme is not going to benefit most of the employees. So, I want to ask of the Minister whether he would like to revise this and extend it to the remaining people also so that the Scheme will become workable.

Secondly, one more point is that in the social sector it is found that in some areas the allocations arc less than those of the last year or there is only a nominal increase, for example, the allocation for the mixed programmes for the Backward Classes and the Scheduled Castes. Will the Minister consider increasing the allocations in those sectors which arc very vital for our country?

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त (सदन के नेता): मैम यह कहना चाहता हूं कि वाइंड-अप स्पीच के बाद ..... आमतौर पर जो सवालात किए जाते रहे हैं, वह किसी ला बुक के मुताबिक नहीं हैं। कहीं एक, दो, तीन सवाल करने की बात हो तो ठीक है। लेकिन अगर फिर फुल सवालात होंगे तो फिर.....

†**شری سکندر بخت:** میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ وائنڈ اپ اسپیچ کے بعد عام طور پر جو سوالات کئے جاتے رہے ہیں وہ کسی لائیک کے مطابق نہیں ہیں۔ کہیں ایک دو تین سوال کرنے کی بات ہوتو ٹھیک ہے۔ لیکن اگر پھر فل سوالات ہونگے تو پھر....

†[]Transilteration in Arabic Script

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU (West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I actually thank the Finance Minister for offering the scope. I have two or three points which I will put briefly.

It appears to us that you have singled the Left out to confront it on policy terms. We have absolutely no problem on this. We accept this position. We also make it clear that we never expected that your Government would do what we wanted. But the point is that there was a spelt out policy which was elaborated by the Prime Minister of this country that there would be an attempt to build a national consensus. The approach that you have demonstrated in course of your reply, I am sorry to say, betrays a lack of appreciation of the need to build a consensus on that. If you don't want consensus, we have no problems because anyway we know that we have to fight against certain specific aspects of this Budget that you have presented. So, would you please clarify on it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, that is not for clarification.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): That is the basic point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a general point.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: No, Sir. This is a point relating to the policy. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, let us complete it by 1.30 p.m.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Sir, it is beyond our dignity to question the political consistency of the Finance Minister. I would not go into that. But, another very vital point he has made is about the disinvestment. We have given importance to certain basic sectors. For example, telecommunications. The experience has been..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Each hon. Member should seek one clarification. It is not a speech'. You have made it during the debate he has given, if you want any clarification, please seek.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Sir, my clarification is whether he would define the non-strategic sector where he is going to disinvest. I would like to know whether there is a private sector worth the name for disinvestment from the public sector.

SHRI SANATAN BISI: (Oriss): Sir, I would like to know the percentage growth of expenditure drawn on the Consolidated Fund of India.

SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, the hon. Minister has said that he will allow Indian companies to participate in the newly opened insurance sector. What docs it mean? Is he saying that if a foreign company floats an Indian company or takes a part of share in the Indian company, that would be allowed to take part in the insurance sector?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Sir, the hon. Minister has said that he is giving a lot of attention to the priority sector. Sir, the Plan Outlay of the Science and Technology departments has been cut down from Rs. 314 crores to Rs. 305 crores. The outlays for CSIR and Bio-tcchnology are the same as last year. In the previous year I had increased it by about 30 per cent. Therefore, I would request him to reconsider bringing them to that level.

On the basic minimum services programme there was a resolution of the Chief Ministers arrived at after a meeting for two days that we have to increase it by 15 per cent. That outlay has. been increased by only 13 per cent. I would request him to restore that.

Sir, I repeat, I congratulate the hon. Minister for the initiative that he has taken on agriculture and the general strategy for investment in the demand dificicnt year, but I would like to know why he has ignored the revamping of cooperative credit. Giving of cards that he has talked about is a very good thing.

very good thing. But what will he do in the case of unrecorded tenants? Will the unrecorded tenants get cards or not? Otherwise I do not see any point. The State of Bihar says that it has only five tenants. That is where the problem is.

The Cooperative credit has gone down from Rs. 10,117 crores to Rs. 9,408 crores. Then, it has just come to Rs. 10,479 crores. So, this is extremely an important matter. We have not received any clarification about it.

Finally, ...*(Interruptions)*... on sanctions with due respect to the Finance Minister, whenever I get his attention. In the Indian financial policy, we have in the past managed contingencies with contingency plan. We keep food stocks for a bad year. We have, in fact, kept foreign exchange stocks. If you go back you will know that we have developed this concept in the mid-seventies because we expected problems to be there. Now, respectfully I would disagree with him on his assessment that he has given on sanctions. On the issue of sanctions, the Government need not borrow and aid quite rightly is not important. But the most important sectors of the Indian economy in terms of policy reforms are the ones where we are putting through reforms. In all these cases there are generally bank guarantees. I made this point yesterday. I gave specific examples of projects in his Budget and bank guarantees thereof where people have said, no. Regarding Budgets of State Governments banks have said no to guarantees. He could have included some contingency..

MR. CHAIRMAN: That was your suggestion. You. have already given. Now, if you want to put any question, you can put. But don't make any speech.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: He should provide for a contingency for these things. Again I would like to repeat—I don't think he has been properly briefed—...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Whether he has been briefed or not...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: I say that he is wrong. You don't understand parliamentary language. That is all I will say. Please listen when I had mentioned, "He has not been properly briefed" 1 wanted to be fair to a senior Minister in the Government. Otherwise, I could have said that he was wrong. You don't even understand the language. I don't think he needs...*(Interruptions)*... What is this? I am using a polite language for the Finance Minister. He is getting upset unnecessary...*(Interruptions)*... Okay, Sir. I will again repeat the point on the power sector if like to like has been used, it should have been said that budgetary support for the power sector has gone down from the Revised Estimates to the Budget Estimates. The figures are Rs. 2,841 crores and Rs. 2,712 crores. So, consistency is very important for the Finance Minister of India because we have to trust them. That is all.

SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA (Haryana): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I want to ask the Finance Minister whether he is going to withdraw the hike on the price of urea, Re. 0.50. I think he might have forgotten to announce it.

Another thing is a large number of farmers are committing suicides. He has not mentioned a word about them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Tomorrow we are taking up this issue through a Calling Attention Motion. Please don't repeat this ten times. We are taking it up because we are specifically concerned about them. Don't ask this question.

SHRI JIBON ROY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Yesterday, during my speech I have raised a specific question whether the Government was contemplating to give statutory status to the Disinvestment Commission. After hearing the reply of the Finance Minister, we feel the statutory status has already been given to

the Disinvestment Commission. Why I say so. Till yesterday it was the policy of the Government to close down those sick industries which were not viable and which were rejected by the BIFR.

The second thing is the disinvestment will take place up to 49 per cent with the exception of the Maruti Udyog Limited. So far as the disinvestment policy is concerned, a Disinvestment Commission has been constituted. This Commission has made some recommendations. These recommendations should have been discussed in this House. Now, it looks without giving any scope to the Parliament, without giving any scope to the Trade Unions he had made a blanket declaration that 74 per cent of the equity will be disinvested. That is why I want to know from him whether the Government has already given a *de facto* statutory status to the Disinvestment Commission. If not, how can the Government declare that 74 per cent of the equity will be disinvested without taking the Parliament into confidence?

श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावत (राजस्थान): सभापति महोदय, वित्त मंत्री जी के बजट भाषण में यह बात आने से कि फसल बीमा योजना देश में लागू की जाएगी, किसानों ने राहत की सांस ली थी। इसी संदर्भ में मैं आज वित्त मंत्री जी से यह क्लेरीफिकेशन चाहता हूं कि क्या यह योजना आप कुछ गिने-चुने जिलों में ही लागू करेंगे या संपूर्ण देश के किसानों को इससे लाभान्वित करना चाहेंगें? यह एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न है, सर।

श्री सभापति : देखिए, मंत्री जी ने जो जवाब दिया है, उसी पर आप सवाल कीजिए, कोई नया सवाल नहींSHRI VALAYAR RAVI (Kerala): Sir, the growth of population is one of the major concerns of the developing nations, including India. But from the reply of the hon. Finance Minister it seems that he has completely ignored this area. I would like to know as to what the policy of the Government on this issue is. Have you completely ignored this aspect?

प्रो0 रामबख्श सिंह वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से, जैसा कि कल मैंने अपने भाषण में कहा था, ...

करना है। यह कोई नया विषय नहीं है, कोई क्वेश्चन आन्सर नहीं है। इन्होंने जो जवाब दिया है, उसी पर अगर आपको क्लैरिफिकेशन पूछना हो तो पूछिए।

प्रो0 रामबख्श सिह वर्मा: सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से यही पूछना चाहता था कि यूरिया की जो कीमत बढ़ाई गई है, उसे क्या आप वापस लेने की घोषणा करेंगे?

प्रो0 विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: सभापति महोदय, मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहूंगा पिछली बार चिदम्बरम साहब ने यह जो खेलों पर हण्ड्रेड परसेंट टैक्स एग्जम्पशन की घोषणा की थी, क्या उस पर आप विचार कर रहे हैं?

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY (Tamilnadu): Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister whether the income-tax defaulters and the violators of the FERA Act can have a right to claim exemption as per your scheme. Is your scheme going to exonerate the involved persons? The Finance Minister has said that the SAMADHAN scheme has been introduced to bring more revenue to the country. If it is true, are you going to encourage defaulters and violators? Who are the key persons who are going to get benefit from the SAMADHAN scheme?

SHRI M.P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI (Kerala): Sir, I would like seek clarifications on two points. Firstly, I had made a request to the hon. Finance Minister to consider providing subsidy to the coconut farmers of Kerala. I would to know as to what the stand of the Government on this point is. Secondly, with regard to NRIs, the hon. Finance Minister has already paid attention to the problems being faced by the NRIs. But there is a genuine need of the NRIs to have a right of franchise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not relevant.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Sir, in the reply given by the Finance Minister, he mentioned briefly about the problem which is taking an alarming proportion now, that is, the decline in the external value of rupee. Now, my feeling is that

perhaps our rupee has come under a very strong speculation, and in two months, the value of rupee has gone done by three rupee. Is the Finance Minister contemplating any measures to ensure that it does not go down further? In that event, there will be a perverse speculation, bringing the whole country's economy to a collapse.

SHRI N.R. DASARI (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I would like to seek one clarification. The Finance Minister has projected a target of 20 lakh houses scheme. Is it in addition to the targets and the schemes of the State Governments or is it an integrated part of it?

SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA: Sir, I am on a point of order. I just want to submit....

MR. CHAIRMAN , No, no, no.

SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA: I will submit only if you permit me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is it?

SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA: Sir, I want to have your ruling. Whether the word "farmer" is unparliamentary; why the Chairman was provoked when I said "Farmers are committing suicide." I want to know.

MR. CHAIRMAN:, I was not provoked. I told you that this issue is not arising out of the reply of the Finance Minister. That is a different issue. We are deeply concerned; we are taking up the Calling Attention tomorrow. So, he is not going to reply.

SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA: I spoke for half-an-hour on this issue last evening, Sir. You were not there. Yes, I spoke on that issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right.

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम (**पश्चिमी बंगाल**): सर वित्त मंत्री महोदय की रिप्लाई सुनने के बाद एक घडी इंडियन टाइम बता रही है, दूसरी ईस्ट-एशियन टाइम बता रही है।

†**شری محمد سلیم:** سر، وت منتری مہودے کا ریپلائی سننے کے بعد ایک گھڑی انڈین ٹائم بتارہی ہے۔ دوسری ایشین ٹائم بتا رہی ہے۔

The shadow of East Asia is looming large!

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, a very large number of questions have been raised, and I will try to answer as many of them as I can. First of all, as far as my friends in the Left Party are concerned, let me assure them that national consensus includes everyone, including the Left. We have absolutely no intention of leaving you in the lurch, and, therefore, when I said "I will come to Calcutta, I will go to Kerala and I will discuss these issues with the workers", what I had meant was that I would use your good offices to be able to put across my point of view. We will have an open debate, just as we are having it here., And I was confident, and I am still confident that I shall be able to convince all those who have misgivings in their minds. So, let us not have any such misunderstandings here. You know, in the cut-and-thrust of debate, a lot of things arc said, but you know, all of us sittings here are friends, and you have said a lot of things to which I have not replied in the same style. Therefore, anything which I might have said here docs not mean that we planned to exclude you from the consensus, and that consensus will not be total or national; it will be only sectional. Then it will not be consensus at all.

In regard to the VRS (Voluntary Re-tirement Scheme), Sir, from this side, that side, issues have been raised. I had outlined the scheme in my Budget-Speech. We are working on it further, and the intention is to make it as acceptable to the workers as possible so that there are absolutely no problems in im-

†[ ] Transilteration in Arabic Script

plcmcnting that scheme. It will not be of any use if we arc not going to carry conviction with the workers, and, therefore, it is important that the scheme should be worked out in such a way. The Prime Minister has already enjoined that task of a group of Ministers, and I am quite confident that we will further refine the scheme and inform Parliament.

But, Sir, I would like to say that on disinvestment, the two previous Governments had, been carrying on the process of disinvestment in their own way. This question of coming and taking Parliamentary approval for disinvestment has never been raised. So, I do not not know why it is being raised in the context of this Government's intention ...*(Interruptions)*... That is the responsibility of the Government that has been put in office on the basis of a majority in the other House.

The hon. Member raised a question about statutory status to the Disinvestment Commission. My colleague, the Leader of the House, deals with that subject, but I would like to say that there is a system already in place. That Disinvestment Commission makes recommendations; those recommendations are considered; the Government of India looks at that in totality, and the Government of India takes the strategic decisions in regard to disinvestment. It is not that we are in somebody else's hand as far as decision-making is concerned. So, there should be no difficulty in regard to that, Sir.

An issue on the Crop Insurance Scheme has been raised. As we all know, the present Crop Insurance Scheme is loan-linked and it has very limited application. I have personally discussed it with the insurance companies and in consultation with them I have mentioned in my Budget Speech that we have a new scheme which will be non-loan-Iinkcd. It will not necessarily be linked to the loan. On an experimental basis we arc starting it in 24 districts. It is my intention to spread it as quickly as possible. I realise that one ot the most important curses from which the farmers in this country suffer from is crop loss and lack of any saftcty net for them, as far as crop losses arc concerned. That is exactly what I wish to provide not only through this but also by opening the insurance sector. My friends from the left will again take it amiss. But the point is that we have not gone to the rural sector with the kind of products with which we can go to them in the insurance sector because it is not sprcadout. Why can't we have rural health schemes'? Why can't we insure their houses? Why can't we insure their crops? Why can't we insure their life? Why can't we give them all the benefits?

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Do you think that the private insurance companies will do this and address these things?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Yes, Sir. they will. Let me tell you quite clearly that when I said in my Budget Speech that we had proposed to open the insurance sector to competition—this issue was also raised by letting Indian private companies come into it, it was consistent with the long-held view not only by the Bharatiya Janata Party but also by its allies, bound as we are by the National Agenda of Governance. This is absolutely consistent. There should be absolutely no ambiguity on this subject. I don't know why this question was raised. Mr. Sanjay Dalmia asked me to define it. I would like to tell you that when I mentioned this in my Budget Speech, a number of doubts were raised. Is there any Indian company? Who will come? Nobody will come. Now we have seen a number of reports which have appeared in the media. Both the public sector and the private sector Indian Companies are wanting to come and take advantage of this opening. I am quite sure once this competition is established in the insurance sector, what we have held back as social security, what we have not done or have not been able to do in that public sector, will be taken care of automatically

and we will not be grappling here, complaining that our farmers don't get crop insurance. They will. I am confident that with the steps which I have enunciated it will be possible to extend this to the rural areas.

In regard to Samadhan, I would request the hon. Member who has raised this point, please read the provisions in regard to Samadhan Scheme in the Finance Bill and all his doubts will be put to rest. I would only say that as regards Samadhan, I will not be in position to discuss individual cases in this House, whether they are brought within Samadhan or they are covered by Samadhan. We have laid down general principles and if you go through the general principles, as I have said, all the doubts in your mind will be removed.

Mr. Vayalar Ravi has raised a question of population. I read the Budget Speech for-two hours in the other House. Still a number of issues were left out. If I had another two hours, may be, I would have included everything. But that does not mean that a thing which has been left out in the Budget Speech is something which is not in our mind. Population control is very much in our mind and we will be taking a number of steps in the coming days, weeks and months to see that it is kept under reasonable limits.

Sir, Shri Alagh has raised a number of points. It is true that the budgetary support compared to even RE has gone down marginally from Rs. 2,841 crores to Rs. 2,714 crores. But if you look at the IEBR, it has increased from Rs. 3,896 crores to Rs. 6,786 crores. In this IEBR---there is one point which I could not cover for want of time — I have taken into account the Rs. 10,000 scheme which is pending, the amount which is pending against the State Electricity Boards, for which we have a separate scheme of secuntisation. It is a kind of bill discounting where we can enable our public sector undertakings to go ahead strongly in the field of fresh projects in power generation. So far as the cooperative sector is concerned, Sir, I know his concern and his attachment to the cooperative sector. I would like to assure him that the other day—I had also talked about a new law in my Budget Speech for the cooperative sector—I had attended a meeting along with the Speaker Lok Sabha. There is a Parliamentarians' Forum for Cooperatives. I had said in my speech and I would like to recall it here that our commitment to the Cooperative Movement was total and that we would not like to flinch in any manner from promoting the Cooperative Movement. So far as our cooperatives are concerned, we would like to encourage them so that not only in the financial field but also in the field of production and distribution they can play their role, for instance, I have talked about 'Self-help Groups'. In my scheme of helping two lakh families, 'Secure Self-employment', the Cooperative movement will play a very important role. NGOs will also play a very important role. Sir, I could not get time to explain the concept of micro banking on which I am putting a great deal of pain. I would like to assure Shri Alagh that there is absolutely no intention of minimising the importance of cooperatives in India.

Then a point was raised about the Consolidated Fund of India and the percentage increase. Sir, the percentage increase over RE of 1997-98 in the Consolidated Fund of India is 3.6 per cent. I hope it will satisfy the hon. Members.

I think I have tried to cover all the points. My colleague, Prof. Malhotra, has raised a point in regard to exemption on Sports Fund contribution.

In my budget speech I have talked about a hundred per cent exemption for the Sports Fund which the Ministry of Human Resource Development would set up.

Sir, I will take into account a number of suggestions which have been made by

the hon. Members. I would like to assure Prof. Malhotra and other hon. Members that the issues which they have raised would receive my most earnest consideration and that when we discuss the Finance Bill that will be the stage at which these changes would be considered.

SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: What about urea price?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: The urea price has already been rolled back by SO percent. If you have a little more patience, I would like to assure you that we will take more steps to help the farmers.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: What about the decline in the value of rupee?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, so far as value of rupee is concerned, we had discussed this issue for about half-an-hour when this question came up here. If the House wishes to discuss it, I am prepared. Let me assure the hon. Members that there is absolutely no cause for worry. We are taking all possible steps to see that there is no speculative attack on the Indian rupee.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about the housing scheme? *(Interruptions).*

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, do you want to say something? *(Interruptions).*

I have to inform the Members that the Business Advisory Committee in its meeting held today, the 11th June, 1998, allotted two hours and thirty minutes for the Statutory Resolution seeking disapproval of the Electricity Regulatory Commission Ordinance, 1988 and considering and passing of the Electricity Regulatory Commission Bill, 1998. Both the things would be discussed together.

Now it is 1.50 p.m. I adjourn the House for one hour on the basis of the watch to my right, not to my left.

The House then adjourned'for lunch at fifty minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at fifty six minutes past two of the clock,

The Vicc-Chairman (Shri John F. Fernandes) in the Chair.

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

Alarming Deterioration in Power and Water Supply Situation in the country

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Now we will take up the Short Duration Discussion. Shri S. B. Chavan.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am raising this discussion on a very important topic which is ultimately going to have a bearing on the Ninth Five Year Plan proposals. It, was, in fact, a great shock to us that even the Ninth Five Year Plan does not seem to have been even thought of. Some proposals were prepared by the previous Government but now the present Government says that the Ninth Plan is still on the anvil. They have to make up their minds and see that they are able to finalise this thing. The whole power sector has suffered because of the fact that the Eighth Plan proposals and the Eighth Plan targets were not achieved at all. The previous target was 40,000 megawatt which was brought down to 30,000 megawatt. The actual achievement according to my information — I have got the Report of the Standing Committee on Energy with me, this Report has come after full consultation with the Ministry concerned and they say is not more than 16,000 megawatts.

So even on the revised target that was fixed for the Eighth Five Year Plan, the Report clearly says that you have not been able to achieve even that figure. So, my request will be, once we consider the Ninth Five Year Plan proposals as they

arc, that will also provide an opportunity if things arc not according to the schedule. It might be that at the midterm appraisal of the Plan we should be in a position to apply some corrective measures and sec that the targets which have been revised or kept arc achievable. If they arc not achievable, certainly we will be able to correct the same. The Power Ministry has not been able to provide adequate funds. It is a very strange thing that it is a lopsided kind of planning where they provide for generation of power. But at the same time, they do not provide enough for transmission and distribution and system improvement. If this is not there I do not know what will happen. Transformer capacity also should be properly looked into so that it is a full planning and as soon as power is generated we should be in a position to distribute power to all those who arc in the requirement of the whole thing. I have not been able to quite understand why the plant load factor which is one of the sources from which instead of having a new generating capacity you can add to the availability of power.

3.00 P.M.

If you look at page 4 of the Standing Committee's report, you will find that figures have been given and they have shown in clear terms what the plant load factor is and how much they have been able to achieve. Now, here they have given the thermal plant load factor. Northern Region: In 1992-93, it is 62%; in 1993-94 64%; in 1994-95 59.1%; in 1995-96 62%; in 1996 62%. Similarly, they have given the figures for the Western Region and the Southern Region. But the shortfall seems to be both, in the Eastern Region and in the North Eastern Region. In the Eastern Region, from 39% they have just been able to go up to 41.7%. In the North-Eastern Region it is the lowest. From 24% they could go up to 27% only. Both in the Eastern and in the North Eastern sector, it is really very low. Surprisingly, even with this capacity, the Ministry has stated that on an average there is surplus power of 1600 MW during the off-peak period and 1000 MW during the peak period in the Eastern Region, but because of lack of transmission capacity they have not been able to utilise it where the power requirement is very high and especially in some of these nearby States where there has been a shortage in the peak capacity as well as off-peak capacity. But they have not been able to tell us why transmission has not been provided for. That is why you have to look at these figures. Again, we will also find that both, in the Central Sector and the State sector there is great disparity. If you look at page 3 of this report, you will find the plant load factor. I will read it. In 1992-93, in the Central sector it was 62.7% and in the State sector it was 54.1% and the average came to 57.1%. In 1993-94, it was 69.2% in 'he Central Sector and 56.5% in the State Sector and the average came to 61%. In 1994-95, it was 69.2% in the Central Sector and 55% in the State Sector and the average came to 60%. In 1995-96, it' was 71% in the Central Sector and 58.1% in the State Sector. In 1996-97, April-December, 1996, it was 69.7% in the Central Sector and 57.8% in the State sector and the average came to 62.5%

So, this clearly shows that in spite of all the efforts that we have been making, there is hardly any justification to find out as to why it is that the plant load factor is not increasing. We have created a new agency for financing all this modernisation, renovation, new transmission lines, etc. They can provide from that source. But in spite of all these arrangements that have been made, you have to explain as to what the justification is for so much difference even in the Central sector. We are not happy. It cannot be 71%. The minimum that you have to achieve will be 75%.

Below 75 per cent is not agreeable. We are not agreeable to that sort of a figure at all. Compared to 75 per cent, this

figure of 57 and 54 seem to be a ridiculous igure. Nobody seems to be bothered as to why we arc not trying to do anything in the matter to sec that the plant load factor is increased.

The next point on which I would like to say something is about the shortfall in generation. I must also bring to the notice of this House that these are the areas which, need to be looked into. This is the main infrastructure which ultimately is going to decide whether the target of 7 per cent capacity that you arc talking about can be achieved. You would like to have a growth rate of 7 to 7.5 per cent in agriculture, industry, etc., and everybody is talking about it. With this capacity, I don't think that you will be able to achieve anything. Now, I will give you the figures of the Ninth Plan that is contemplated. On this basis, if I mistake not, the Committee observed that the Ministry of Power have projected a capacity addition of 57,000 megawatts with an estimated expenditure of Rs. 2,28,000 crores during the Ninth Plan period. Out of this 57,000 megawatts, what is being now earmarked for gas-based or naphtha-based as they call it, electricity generation is 12,000 megawatts. Mind you in fact, the highest rate of production is going to be only in naptha. The Committee observed that the Committee is also surprised to note that no other country has opted for naphtha as fuel for power production. The Committee further stated that it need hardly stress that while selecting fuel for power plants, the interest of the ultimate consumer should be kept in mind. Ultimately, this is going to cost more in some of the projects which we have seen. Enron is going to charge Rs. 4.25 as per unit cost. They also have the escalation clause. Then, why are you selecting them? It is because you arc feeling that these naphtha-based projects can be completed within about one-and-a-half years. This is the contingency plan. This cannot be a base plan for any country. I can understand that a place like Mumbai where the requirement is very high and those who arc interested in continuous processing industry, they arc prepared to pay any amount provided there is no interruption. For them it is all right, but for a country of our size, if you are thinking of making a beginning in the Ninth Five Year Plan by earmarking 12,000 megawatts for naphtah-bascd electricity generation — and ultimately this is going to be part of the grid — then everybody will have to pay very high. The per-unit cost, in fact, is going to be beyond the capacity of any of the consumer. I request the hon. Minister incharge of Power to seriously consider whether this can be considered as a base on which you will have power. With this kind of capacity — you had almost five years, you started it in the year 1991—and in 1998 you arc saying you propose to earmark 12,000 megawatts for naphtha-based power projects. In fact, for a contingency plan, a very urgent plan, when you require immediate power, you go in for naphtha-based power projects. Sir, I cannot understand the justification for having this kind of a souice being used. No other country is using this kind of a source and this is what they have stated in the report. India is the only country where everybody seems to be very keen for projects which are being brought by some multi-nationals and are cleared without any justification. There was such a case and I had raised objections about giving counter—guarantee by the Central Government. The World Bank advised us not to give any counter guarantee. They were in power for 13 days and on the last day this was given. On the thirteenth day this counter-guarantee was given to Enron and me more project. Whether this is the first or second, I am not quite sure. On that day the counter-guarantee was given for reasons best known to them. This certainly does not augur well for the production of power during the Ninth Five Year Plan as a whole. I have no objection if you try to give them hydro-power, if you try to give them thermal-power. If it is within a

reasonable cost, I can understand. Yes, there is a' shortage of resources and because of this it is rather difficult to find Rs. 2,28,000 crores for power projects alone and that is why it becomes all the more necessary for private parties to invest their money if they are prepared. They will certainly be interested provided we have a clear idea. Do not give in so easily to these multi-nationals who go in for naphtha projects. Actually my information is that with Gulf countries we had a project in which power was to be produced there or the gas was to be transported to India and thereafter we produce power here. Now you have given up that and you are adopting shorter course of providing this kind of power which is ultimately going to be not in the interest of the country at all. May be, some people are interested in having power projects from some other source. I do not think this is the right thing to do and that is why I am very much interested in saying that if power is not available, you can take if from me that the 8% rate of growth which you are talking is going to be a imaginary figure. If you could achieve even half of it, then I would accept that you have done proper planning. But with this kind of power in short supply, irrigation facility in short supply, telecommunications which everybody knows, it is difficult. If you go to other countries you will find uninterrupted communication whether it is monsoon or off-monsoon, transmission lines will be there and you will not come across any kind of interruption. Here, even if it is one shower, you can see all the telephones going dead. Nobody is responsible for the same. This is the kind of situation in which we are working and that is why in all the infrastructure projects what is required is proper planning. If we have no resources, try to plan in such a fashion that we should be able to achieve what we plan for. Otherwise, if you plan to any size, and you can not achieve the same and then you keep on explaining for the lapse. I have gone through another thing which I would like to make a mentien, which is on page 20 of the same report. This is about electrification of certain areas which are called Dalit and Adivasi Family connections, Kutir Jyothi. In 1995-96 you could achieve only 5.11 lakh against the target of 6.25 lakhs.

All of a sudden, there was an increase in the norms from Rs. 400 to Rs. 800 per connection and that too without any kind of meter. If a meter is required, it costs about Rs. 1000 per connection. The budgetary allocation as Rs. 25 crores and it was not increased. That is why the target for 1997 could not be achieved and against the target of 6.25 lakh the achievement was only 1,43,741. A number of power-pumps are there. A number of villages have been electrified. If there is a shortage of power, the first victim happens to be the rural areas. The rural feeders are just switched off. They go on shouting in the rural areas for hours together, but electricity is just not available. That is why in Punjab and other areas where people are affluent they can afford diesel pumps because nobody is prepared to rely on the power supplied by the Electricity Boards. This is the situation in which the entire population of the country is. It is a matter of concern to all of us-because ultimately Power availability is going to support both agriculture and rural industry. If agriculture suffers so badly because of mismanagement, then I do not know as to who is coming to their rescue. Even in the Adivasi areas I find the same situation which is there in all other areas. I have got figures with me. I do not wanfto go into all those details. My only request today would be that we will have to consider very seriously as to how things have to be brought on proper lines. I would like to refer in a very brief manner to the problem of Delhi. Delhi seems to be a special case. Nobody seems to be bothered about the functioning of the Delhi Vidyut Board. They are in the habit of not paying for coal, transportation, etc. to the authorities who are supplying coal etc. to

them. These authorities are not in a position to get even a pie out of what they should possibly get from them. So, this is not only total inefficiency, but I can say without any fear of contradiction that there is a racket going on in Delhi; open theft of power is going on. You get transmission from just next door busbar. But, the percentage of losses is about 40 per cent or even more. So, transmission and distribution losses are up to 40 per cent. I cannot understand it. I can understand it if you take the line from a distance of 80 kms. or 90 kms. In the case of such a long line, I can understand that there might be some transmission and distribution losses. But, in Delhi you are getting power from Indraprastha and Badarpur which are next door to Delhi. How do you explain this? I wanted to know whether the de-rated capacity has been brought down. Yesterday even the hon. Minister for Power was not able to find out as to whether it is the established capacity or it is the de-rated capacity and ultimately he had to say that 681 MW was the de-rated capacity and out of this you could produce only 260 MW. Sir, 260 out of 680—what a great achievement really? If this is the de-rated capacity, then you need not bother about power generation at all so long as the Delhi Vidyut Board is in a position to get electricity from all the sources. After all, you are in Delhi and you are capable of getting electricity from all the sources at the cost of other States. The NTPC is there to give you and other State Governments are prepared to give you. I am quite sure that the entire loss is not going to be of the order of Rs. 6,000 crores but it is going to be much more—almost Rs. 10,000 crores as has been stated by the hon. Leader of the Opposition. He said that Rs. 10,000 crores they owe to all these different agencies and now you are talking in terms of giving some kind of a guarantee, I was told. If it is going to be guarantee, where from are you going to pay? Are you going to pay from the Consolidated Fund of India? What is your source from which you are going to get the money? If you are going to borrow, why should you borrow? Let the Delhi Electricity Board borrow. I do not think that they are in a position to borrow and that is the reason why it is a very pampered Electricity Board which can get away with anything. It is not for the first time that they are asking for this kind of concessions. They are asking this for years together. I do not want to charge any Government because every Central Government comes under pressure and year after year they go on pressurising the Central Government and somehow they succeeded in getting away with all the indiscipline they have been indulging in. Sir, I do not expect much from this weak Government. Unfortunately I have to use the word 'weak'. You are a minority Government. We could see that if you do not agree to concessions asked by State Governments, the Electricity Bill will not be passed and that is the reason why you have to agree and accept the amendments proposed by them. So, political pressures are being brought and the Central Government is not in a position to act in a firm manner. One day or the other you will have to be firm. Otherwise, if you have to give any special concessions to Delhi, take it from me, the rest of the State Governments are bound to ask you as to why they should not get the same kind of concessions. At the peak of the heat that we had in Delhi, everybody was shouting. Even at peak hours there was no electricity in a large number of areas. It was chaos in a large number of areas. No electricity was available. Power is not available during day time and during night time and people are shouting for power and water. We have seen the conditions under which the citizens of Delhi, the capital of this big country, suffered. You can just understand as to what would be the plight of those poor villagers who cannot bring any kind of pressure. If they bring any pressure, immediately their connections are disconnected. But here is a big Electricity Board which can get away with all kinds

of things and nobody seems to enforce any kind of discipline on them. My request will be to have some kind of a reasonable amount of production. The power sector is a must. If power sector fails, the entire thing will collapse.

I have no doubt about it and that is the reason why you will have to seriously apply your mind to this problem

Now, I will come to the availability of drinking water. I am quoting from the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 871 dated 26.11.1997. These are the figures. I quote, "All efforts have been made by different State Governments. A Technology Mission was specially created in Delhi. The National Drinking Water Supply Mission and the same later on became the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission and sub-missions which was able to provide drinking water to different areas." I would like to give you the figures. I have got figures for different States. As on 7th December, 1995, the total number of villages, where drinking water is not available is 1,40,975. Partially covered villages are 4,30,377 and fully-covered villages arc 7,47,347. I must say that is a good figure. But, I have got figures for various years also. According to the latest figures, as on 1.4.96, 'not connected' or 'uncovered' villages arc still 75,681. But, the figure which has caused a tremendous amount of difficulty is of partially-covered villages, which are 3,31,723. Then, after seeing the figures of 1997, I would request the hon. Minister to please let me know how far these figures are correct. According to these figures, in Madhya Pradesh they have given water supply to all villages, not even a single village has been left out. Likewise, in Maharashtra, they say, zero, that means all the villages have been covered; Daman and Diu-zcro; Lakshadwccp-zero; Pondichcrry-zcro, Tamil Nadu-zero. These arc the figures which you yourselves had given. These are not my figures. This is an Unstarred Question and reply has been given by you. So, these are the areas where all villages have been covered but, still we find that these arc the very areas from where we arc getting complaints that water supply is just not available. Of course, I can understand as to why it is happening. The reason for the same is that underground water level has gone very low. It is the source from which they were getting water. It has just dried up because great heat has been generated. It is not only in partially-covered villages, but even in assured villages also there is not water supply at all. We have to think of it very seriously. I do not know what the Government can possibly do. But ultimately it is going to be the responsibility of State Governments to have some kind of legislation in which you will have to put restrictions on drawing underground water because water is being drawn by high intensity electricity pumps. A large number of irrigation wells arc coming around. 10HP, 15HP, 25HP pumps are operating in several areas, and that has caused scarcity of drinking water. So, you will have to call a meeting of all State Governments and try to find out whether there is a possibility of having a legislation of this nature, where restriction can be put on drawing water in such a huge quantity. So that drinking water supply may not become a problem. My request to you is that do not go by figures. And then for both these things, the power and the drinking water, if you arc going to tell me that what can we do, we can only advise State Governments. We cannot do anything. If that is the attitude, then I would have rather kept quiet and would not have raised the discussion at all. You have responsibility when you give" "money to State Governments, and it will not be out of place to mention about the powers of Zila Parishad in Maharashtra. Kwill take just five minutes and I have done, Sir. I will make one more point, that is about the powers of the Zila Parishad in Maharashtra State. Maharashtra State is the only State where they have made the Zila Parishad and the Panchayat Samiti totally ineffective. A Mavor-in-Council

here becomes an Executive Officer there. The ministers arc functioning there in the metropolitan cities. The period has been increased to five years. In Zila Parishad and Panchayat Samiti they were enjoying the powers for five years, it has been reduced to one year. So, the first six months they just while away in welcoming and the next six months for giving farewell. So, there is hardly any work that they can possibly do. We have given statutory powers to these zila parishads and panchayat samitis and there they have become so ineffective that they cannot do anything. You cannot hold them responsible. Ultimately it is the State Government which will be responsible for this. Do not give this reply to us that ultimately it is the responsibility of the State Government which is going to decide, wc are not responsible. That is the stock reply I have heard from most of the ministers. My request to all of them is, kindly do not give that kind of a technical reply. Try to go deep into the matter and sec that you arc able to find a solution to the problem.

श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावत (राजस्थान): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, राष्ट्र के एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दे पर आज यहां चर्चा हो रही है। इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन का ध्यान देश में पानी की स्थिति की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। महोदय, हमारे देश में 1991 की जनगणना के अनुसार लगभग 5,87,000 गांव है और जव हमने 8वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना पूरी कर ली है तो उनको जहां तक स्वच्छ जल देने का सवाल है, हम मात्र 3,15,714 गांवों को पानी दे पाए है। महोदय, 1.4.97 को संसद में एक प्रश्न के जवाब में जो उत्तर, दिया गया था, उसमें बताया गया था कि अभी तक 2,00,554 गांव ऐसे हैं जिनकों हम अभी तक स्वच्छ पानी नहीं दे पाए हैं।

महोदय, मैं जिस राज्य से आता हूं उसके एक तिहाई के लगभग 9,784 गांव ऐसे है जहां स्वच्छ पीने का पानी उपलब्ध नहीं हो रहा है और यही देश का वह सर्वाधिक संख्या वाला प्रदेश है जहां स्वच्छ पानी उपलब्ध नहीं हो रहा है। इसके कारण देश में अधिकांश बीमारियां फैल रही है। अस्वच्छ पानी और गंदगी के कारण ये बीमारियां बढ़ रही है। महोदय, मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि स्वच्छ पानी और पीने के पानी के बारे में किसी भी राज्य सरकार और केन्द्र सरकार ने अब तक कोई ठोस कानून नहीं बनाया है। जब तक कोई कानून इस बारे में नहीं बनेगा, तब तक पानी से उत्पन्न होने वाली और विशेषकर अस्वच्छ पानी से उत्पन्न होने वाली बीमारियों हम रोक नहीं लगा पाएंगे ऐसा मेरा आपसे विनम्र निवेदन है।

महोदय, यह एक अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फिनामिना है। संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ खुद कहता है कि पेयजल उपलब्ध करना एक विकराल चुनौती है । यू0एन0ओ0 कहता है कि 2 अरब लोगों को मल-निकासी के लिए पर्याप्त पानी उपलब्ध नहीं है। उनका यह भी कहना है कि 90 करोड़ लोग डायरिया के शिकार हो रहे है और विश्व में 100 करोड़ लोगों को स्वच्छ पानी उपलब्ध नहीं हो रहा है। इस दृष्टि से संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ और स्टॉकहोम पर्यावरण संगठन ने एक सर्वे करने के बाद चेतावनी दी है कि अगर बड़े पैमाने पर कदम नहीं उठाए गए तो सन् 2025 तक दुनिया के दो-तिहाई लोग जल संकट की परिधि में आ जाएंगे । इसलिए मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि भारत सरकार इस पर गंभीरता से विचार करे।

महोदय, मैं निवेदन करता हूं कि जरा एक बात ये सोचे। मैं कंजरवेटीवनैस की बात नहीं करता। मैं आपका ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं कि पहले के दिनों में भारत में पेयजल की उत्तम व्यवस्था थी। हमारे यहां जल संग्रहण की व्यवस्था थी लेकिन उसको दकियानूसी कहकर समाप्त करने का दौर चला । मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि ईसा से ढाई हजार वर्ष पूर्व हमारे यहां सिंधु नदी के किनारे नगर बसाने का काम शुरू हुआ पर अब हम नदियों से दूर होते जा रहे है। गंगा नदी की ओर मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। महोदय, देश की आबादी का 40 प्रतिशत भागा गंगा नदी और उसकी सहायक नदियों के किनारे बसा हुआ है। जल के निकट हम लोग इसलिए गए थे ताकि जल की समस्या का हम निदान कर सकें । अब कोई और रास्ता नहीं बचा है। अब तो एक ही रास्ता है कि नदी को हम शहर के किनारे ले जाएं, नदी को गांव के किनारे ले जाएं और पेयजल की समस्या का स्थाई निदान करें। तभी इसका हल संभव हो सकता है।

महोदय, मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूं कि पहले पर पानी की रखवाली करने के लिए, पोखरों और झीलों के लिए अलग से एक विभाग काम करता था। मैं नहीं जानता आज़ादी के 50 साल बाद उनकी रखवाली के लिए भारत सरकार का कौन का विभाग काम कर रहा है जो हमारे यहां पानी के संग्रहण के लिए , पानी की सुरक्षा

के लिए काम करता हो। मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि पृथ्वी पर तो केवल 70.8 प्रतिशत भाग पानी है और 29.2 प्रतिशत भाग भूमि है। स्थिति कुल मिलाकर यह हो गई है कि हमारे यहां नदियों का कुल जल 1,64,50,000 घन मीटर के आसपास है और भूमिगत जल लगभग 2,55,00,000 घन मीटर के लगभग है।

महोदय, उन 18 नदियों को जब तक हिन्दुस्तान के प्रत्येक प्रान्त तक नहीं ले जाएंगे, हमारी नदियों के पानी को जब तक हम गांवों और शहरों तथा कस्बों तक नहीं ले जाएंगे, नदियों के पानी के बंटवारे का काम मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं इस सदन से कि सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता से निबटाया जाना चाहिए नदी के पानी के अलावा और नहर के द्वारा जब तक पानी नहीं जाएगा तब तक स्थानीय छोटी योजनाओं के द्वारा हमारी प्यास नहीं बुझ सकती। यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि हालत कुल मिलाकर यह है कि 94 प्रतिशत पानी खेती में जा रहा है। केवल गेहूं पैदा करने के लिए 500 लीटर पानी की आवश्यकता है और एक व्यक्ति एक टन पानी प्रति वर्ष पी जाता है। कहां से लाएं हम पानी और पानी भी कैसा जिसमें फ्लोराइड है? एक तरफ शहर की यह हालत है जहां पर टोंटी खोलते ही पानी आ जाता है, पर अनेक गांव और शहर ऐसे है जहां चुल्लु भर पानी उपलब्ध नही होता । उसकी व्यवस्था करने के लिए सरकार को जिम्मा उठाना पड़ेगा। उसका एक रास्ता है। हमको बरसात के पानी से संग्रहण का काम शुरू करना होगा। इसके लिए केन्द्र सरकार को कानून बनाना पड़ेगा। मुझे सौभाम्यवश नगर विकास न्यास के अध्यक्ष के नाते काम करने का तीन वर्ष अवसर मिला। हमने एक नियम बनाया कि जो कोई शहर में मकान बनाएगा बरसात के पानी को रोकने के लिए उसको एक टैंक बनाना होंगा तो हम नक्शे की स्वीकृति देते थे। मैं कह सकता हूं कि 50 वर्गफुट की जमीन पर बने हुए मकान के अंदर टैंक से उस परिवार को 9 महीने पीने का पानी उपलब्ध हो सकता है। अब इस ओर ध्यान कौन दे? इसलिए मैं केन्द्र सरकार से पुरजोर निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि चाहे शहर हों, चाहें छोटे कस्बे हों वहां बरसात के पानी को रोकने के नाते कोई कानून बनाया जाना चाहिए।

अब मैं आता हूं अपने राजस्थान प्रदेश की ओर। महोदय, बात बहुत संक्षिप्त में करना चाहता हूं। राजस्थान में हालत यह है कि चौरासी से लेकर के झत्रू तक के सर्वेक्षण की ओर जाऊं तो मेरे यहां 24 जिले ऐसे है 0.5 मीटर से लेकर 6.16 मीटर तक जहां पानी का स्तर नीचे चला गया। केवल मात्र 6 जिले हैं जिनका मुश्किल से 3.1 मीटर पानी तो बढ़ा और 30.56 मीटर पानी नीचे चला गया और राजस्थान आज पानी की समस्या से विकराल रूप से ग्रस्त है। हमारी हालत यह है कि छठी पंचवर्षीय योजना मे हमने 90 करोड़ रु0 नगर के लिए और ग्रामीण योजना के लिए 248.3 करोड़ रुपए स्वीकृत किये। पर मैं धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं केन्द्र सरकार और राज्य सरकार को कि उन्होंने नवीं योजना के अंदर नगर के लिए 895 करोड़ रुपया और ग्रामीण योजना के लिए 1575 करोड़ रुपया स्वीकृत किया। पर मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि पानी कैसे जाएगा जबकि कुल गांवा हमारे यहां 37889 है, पर पाईप पहुंचा है केवल 3190 गांवों मे हैंड पंप हैं 23138 में। क्या हैंड पम्प प्यास बुझा सकता है, क्या हैंड पम्प से निकलने वाला पानी स्वच्छ पानी होगा? क्या उस पानी के आधार के ऊपर पशु का, आदमी का और इसकी नित्य प्रति की आवश्यकता की पूर्ति हो सकती है। क्षेत्रीय योजना तो मुश्किल से 9005 है। जे0जे0 वाई0 और टी0एस0एस0 को शामिल कर लें तो 1862 होती है और फिर डिग्गी, तालाब और पोखर होते हैं 282, हालत यह है कि 15560 गांव अधिक प्लोराइड से ग्रस्त हैं। महोदय, मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं कि उन गावों की हालत यह है कि 14415 गांवो की बसावट में सेलिनिटी युक्त पानी है और वह पानी पीने के बाद आदमी लूला हो जाता है, लंगड़ा हो जाता है, कुबड़ा हो जाता है। राजस्थान के अनेक गांव है जिनके अंदर अगर जाएं तो हर गांव के बाहर एक लूला, लंगड़ा मिलेगा। उससे पूंछे कि क्या हुआ तो पता चलेगा कि वहां के पीने के पानी के कारण वह लूला और लंगड़ा हो गया। मैं कहता हूं कि आजादी के 50 वर्स बाद स्वर्ण जयंती वर्ष में यदि हम फ्लोराइड के पानी से मुक्ति दे सकते है। मैं भारत सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि 94 गांव की एक योजना बनी 24.40 करोड़ की, पर भारत सरकार के पास एक योजना 644 गांव की 160 करोड़ की और आई है। इस कुबड़ापन से, इस फ्लोराइड और इस जहरीले पानी से अगर राजस्थान को मुक्त दे सकते हैं तो हमारे ऊपर बहुत बड़ा उपकार होगा। पर इसका क्या फार्मूला इस सरकार ने बनाया है? उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह सब जगह लागू होता है इसलिए निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि स्वच्छ जल के लिए जो योजना बनेगी उसमें 75 प्रतिशत हिस्सा अब केन्द्र सरकार क्यों नहीं देती? हमारा निवेदन है कि पानी की इतनी भयकर हालत है तथा हमारे यहां राजस्थान में हालत यह है कि देश के कुल पानी का मेरे यहां एक परसेंट पानी है और मेर यहां पौपुलेशन 5-7 परसेंट से अधिक हो रहा है तो उस पानी की समस्या का निदान

हम कैसे पाएंगे? इसलिए मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि जहां डेजर्ट हैं, रेगिस्तान है उनको विशेष श्रेणी के अंदर रखा जाना चाहिए इन्होंने जो वेटेज का फार्मूला बनाया है, उसके अंदर परिवर्तन करने की आवश्यकता है। 222 शहर है जिनमें एक करोड़ के लगभग जनसंख्या रहती है और पश्चिमी राजस्थान को हमने इंदिरा गांधी नहर से पानी भिजवाया है। 62 शहर ऐसे है जिनको बांधों और झीलों से पानी दे रहे है और आज हमारी स्थिति यह बन गई कि कुल मिला कर भारत सरकार ने हमको कितनी राशि दी? वह ऊंट के मुंह के जीरे के बारबर नहीं थी। 1993-94 में 87.97 लाख, 1994-95 में 177-97 लाख, 1995-96 में 237 लाख, 1996-97 में 306.75 लाख और 1997-98 में 171.52 लाख। केवल इतनी राशि इतने बड़े रेगिस्तानी प्रदेश, इतने पानी के अभाव वाले प्रदेश को दी। इसलिए मैं भारत सरकार से यह कहना चाहूंगा कि राजस्थान को कम से कम विशेष श्रेणी का दर्जा देकर उसके पानी की कोई व्यवस्था कराएं।

भारत सरकार ने यह कहा कि 20 हजार से कम जनसंख्या की स्टेट होगी तो 50 परसेंट राज्य की जनसंख्या का वेटेज होगा, 35 परसेंट राज्य की गरीबी का होगा, 5 परसेंट शहरों की 20 हजार से कम की संख्या का होगा और 10 परसेंट विशेष राज्य, डी0 डी0 पी0, एच0ए0डी0पी0 और पहाडीई क्षेत्र का होगा। मेरा निवेदन यह है कि सारे के सारे लाभान्वित होने वाले क्षेत्र के अंदर इसको परिवर्तित किया जाना चाहिए और इस फार्मूले के अंदर 45 परसेंट जनसंख्या का वेटेज हो, 30 परसेंट इंसीडेंस गरीबी का वेटेज हो, 5 परसेंट शहरों की जनसंख्या का वेटेज हो, 10 परसेंट विशेष आवश्यकता डी0पी0ए0पी0, डी0डी0पी0 और हिली एरिया का हो और 10 परसेंट रेगिस्तानी क्षेत्र का वेटेज उसके अंदर होना चाहिए। तब जाकर हमें कुछ लाभ मिल पाएगा। इसलिए मैं यह निवेदन करूंगा कि यह सारी योजना चाहे 20 हजार से ऊपर हो, चाहे 20 हजार से 50 हजार हो चाहे। लाख तक हो, उनमें 75 परसेंट भारत सरकार पैसा दे और 25 परसेंट राज्य सरकार दे। मैं भारत सरकर के प्रति आभार प्रकट करता हूं कि इन्होंने पांच वर्षो में स्वच्छ पेयजल बनाने की बात कही है। इन्होंने 1997-98 में जहां केवल 1302 करोड़ रुपए दिए थे त्वरित ग्रामीण जलपूर्ति पर, इस वर्ष इन्होंने 1627 करोड़ रुपए की व्यवस्था की है और सामुदायिक योगदान की बात कही है। मैं इसलिए निवेदन करूंगा और एक मिनट में अपनी बात समाप्त करना चाहूंगा।

महोदय, मैं विद्युत की ओर भी आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा। महोदय, आज हमारी 4,24,505 मिलियन यूनिट की आवश्यकता है, हमारे पास उपलब्धता केवल 3,90,335 मिलियन यूनिट है और कुल मिला कर 8.5 परसेंट ऊर्जा की कमी बताई गई है। पर मेरे राज्य में 20655 मिलियन यूनिट के स्थान पर 20288 मिलियन यूनिट देने की बात करते है और उसमें भी निरंतर कमी हो रही है। मैं एक निवेदन करता हूम, विद्युत मंत्री जी यहां विराजे हुए है, जितनी राज्य सरकारों ने योजनाएं भेजीं, उनकी स्वीकृति क्यों नही होती ? पर्यावरण के नाम पर उनकी स्वीकृति को क्यों रोका जाता है? नेप्था के आधार पर जब योजनाएं पूरी होने की स्थिति में नहीं है, हम पर्याप्त मात्रा में नेप्था उपलब्ध कराने की स्थिति में नहीं है तो सारी की सारी योजनाएं जिस सेक्टर में जानी चाहिए थीं, उन सबके आगे प्रश्न-चिन्ह बनकर खड़ा हो गया। इसलिए मैं एक निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि विद्युत के मामले में सामान्य नीति बनाइए नहीं तो राज्य पिछड़ जाएंगे। कुछ राज्यों ने बिजली फ्री कर दी, कुछ राज्य जो आर0एस0ई0 बी0 के है वे घाटे में जा रहे हैं। आप उनके घाटा-पूर्ति की बात करते है। इसलिए सारे राज्य के अंदर दरों के मामले में, एग्रीकल्चर टैरिफ के मामले में कोई न कोई समान नीति भारत सरकर को बनानी चाहिए ताकि एक भी राज्य को नीचा न देखना पड़े। वहां पर रीसेंटमेंट खड़ा हो गया, आंदोलन खड़े हो गए। इसलिए मैं निवेदन कर रहा हूं कि भारत सरकार की कोल से संबंधित विद्युत परियोजना सूरतगढ़ स्टेज 2 को को लिंकेज और तकनीकी आर्थिक स्वीकृति दे दें। बरसिंघसर के लिग्राईट पावर प्रोजेक्ट को तकनीकी स्वीकृति दे दें, अंता गैस बेस्ड स्टेज 2 को क्लीयरेंस दे दें, कोटा थर्मल प्रोजेक्ट यूनिट 6 को पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय की स्वीकृति दिलवा दें। मेरा एक निवेदन यह भी है कि मेघा थर्मल प्रोजेक्ट की राष्ट्रीय नीति बनवा दें। राजस्थान ऐटॉमिक पावर स्टेशन जो 1973 में बना था, वह तो कर्म से कम अब राज्य सरकार को दे दें। यदि ऐसा करें तो मेरे ख्याल से अच्छा होगा। रामगढ़ की विस्तार परियोजना को अभी तक अतिरिक्त गैस आबंटित नहीं हुई, उसको दिलवा दें तो आपकी बडी कृपा होगी। 1000 करोड़ के स्थान पर राज्य सरकार को 2000 करोड़ तक की स्वीकृति के लिए इधर न आना पड़े, उसकी भी कोई व्यवस्था हो जाए और अखिरी सुझाव देकर मैं अपनी बाअत व्यवस्था हो जाए और अखिरी सुझाव देकर मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करुंगा, वह सौर ऊर्जा के बारे में है। सौर ऊर्जा के बारे में है। सौर ऊर्जा एक ऐसी ऊर्जा है जिसके प्रोडक्शन पर कम खर्चा होता है, वहां कैपिटल इन्वेस्टमेंट होता है । 300 क्लीयर डेज़ चाहित धूप के तब सौर ऊर्जा पैदा हो सकती है पर मैं सौभाग्य से कह सकता हूं कि सोना और चांदी तो मेरे राजस्थान में नहीं होगा, वीर और सपूत पैदा हुए हैं उस रेगिस्तान में

दिन जैसलमेर में घूप उपलब्ध है जहां सौर ऊर्जा पैदा की जा सकती है। इसलिए 50 मेगावॉट के तीन पावर परचेज़ एग्रीमेंट जो अभी किए गए है, मथानिया से लेकर जैसलमेर तक को सोलर जोन बनाने को तैयार है, तो भारत सरकार इसमें कुछ रियायत दे दें और अविलम्ब हम्को इस तरह का प्रोत्साहन दे कि हम समस्या का निदान कर सके। और अंत में कहूंगा- पानी की बात कही है:

रहिमन पानी रखिए, बिन पानी सब सून,
पानी गए न ऊबरे, मोती, मानस चून।

पानी नहीं तो न आदमी बचेगा, न गरीब का आटा बचेगा, न चून बचेगा। इसलिए मुझे उम्मीद है- भारत सरकार ने बहुत व्यवस्था की है, विद्युत के क्षेत्र में भी की है और उम्मीद करके चलते है जब यहां पर एन0टी0पी0टी0 और कोल इंडिया पर राज्य विद्युत बोर्डो की बकाया राशि जो लगभग 10 हजार करोड़ रुपये है, उसके बारे में बात कर रहे है, सरकार की गांरटी योजना तैयार कर रहे है। वित्त मंत्रालय ने भी नौ हजार पांच सौ करोड़ रुपये का जब प्रावधान किया है तो संसाधन जुटाने में बहुत लाभ होगा, नये प्रोजेक्ट्स इसमें आएंगे और मैं उम्मीद करता हूं कि इस सरकार के सामने जो मैंने निवेदन किया है, वह उस ओर प्रयास कर रही है और यदि कुछ कर सके तो इस देश में इस समस्या का निदान हो सकेगा। अपने मुझे समय दिया, इसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY (West Bengal): Sir, I rise to discuss a subject, which sadly needs to be discussed even 50 years after our independence. A cricial aspect of our national existence today is the deteriorating power and water supply situation. One primary reason for this is the low concern and the low priority given to it by the present Government. Three fundamental requirements for human survival are: food, drinking water and housing. If we cannot guarantee our citizens even these basic amenities, we have no right to give long and tall lectures on globalisation, liberalisation, democracy and human rights. Ensuring basic amenities of life is the first component of good governance. Is it not so for an able and stable Government?

Sir, I would like to confine my brief presentation to the second aspect of today's discussion i.e. the drinking water. Another name for water is life. Access to drinking water, as we know, is absolute requirement for human survival and also for human life, because many of our diseases are water-borne. Looking at the issue from the national point of view, availability of water has also important equity and development implications. To give an example, the contaminated water firstly affects human productivity. To give you another example, women have to walk for miles in villages to fetch drinking water. Tagore writes: "It is time, let us go and take water." These daily chores of women promotes gender ine-quility. None-the-Iess, as-according to the Government survey, more than 50 per cent of urban and rural population do not have access to safe and adequate drinking water. I also have the statistics before How are people supposed to live and go and work and bathe and do their daily things of life? In East Delhi for two days there was no water. Even in the posh locality, South Extension of Delhi, if water is available it is a mere trickle. A friend of mine who lives in the suburban city of Delhi told me once that in their homes water comes from 12 midnight to 2.00 A.M. I asked him, "How did you find it out?" He told me, "It is too hot, we cannot sleep. So by chance we stumbled upon this great discovery." Instances like this are reported in newspapers every day. The daily requirement of drinking water for Delhi people is estimated at 750 million gallons. Against this, the authorities are supplying around 600 million gallons. Therefore, there is a shortfall of 150 million gallons per day and, yet, the Chief Minister of Delhi reportedly claims that there was no shortage of water. How could this be, Sir? I claim and I assert that this indicates a lack of political will at the highest level, a refusal to acknowledge the problem, let alone solve it. People are buying water at an exorbitant price.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Six minutes for each Member. There are two Members from your party.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: I will take to minutes more. Private tankers are making very good business. Mineral water has become a natural thing for the people who can afford to buy.

The problem of drinking water is linked with the power crisis which my esteemed colleague will deal with.

I will mention another point. Please give me two minutes for that. In my humble view, this is a vital one. Scarcity is not the only issue in the context of Delhi power supply. The drinking water available is a threat to our health. This is what experts say. This makes me personally very, very worried—I am health conscious—because the water mixed with sewage has made it a very lethal combination for residents of this capital, no wonder, with open drains, corroded pipelines and shallow wells. None other than the AIIMS report indicates an alarming prevalence of amoeba, parasite, bacteria and larva in the drinking water. Interestingly according to the newspaper report, the Chief Minister has reiterated in the first week of May that Delhi water is safe and pollution free. Only a few days later, more interestingly, the Minis-ter for Urban Affairs in reply to a Stai-rcd Question in the Lok Sabha on the 28th May, 1998 stated, I quote: "Certain incidents of contamination of water have come to the notice of Delhi Jal Board." Sir, aren't you afraid? Aren't you scared for your health? I am certainly scared for myself and for all the residents of Delhi.

To prepare a comprehensive water policy, it will take some time. Mr. Minister, while formulating it, please take not of Midnapore experiment in West Bengal wherein the Water Committee has two women representatives. Today the urgent and immediate need is for quick action, quick planning. What contingency plan does the Government have to offer us? Sir, I repeat it is a question of priority. The priority is not for construction of places of worship in debatable areas, not even building up nuclear power. It is to ensure that all citizens live a life with at least the barest minimum amenities. The cry is for good governance. I call upon the Government to come out with their contingency plan to give, to guarantee all citizens, if nothing else, at least safe and adequate drinking water. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Mr. N.K.P. Salve, you have just five minutes.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE (Maharashtra): Sir, adequate and stable, I know you are responding. He is my successor and we had only two more Ministers in between in two years. I am conversant with the problem, but I also know ..... stable power is the very foundation of allround development of any country, much so, of a developing country. Therefore, when I look at the problems of the power sector, extremely serious and dangerous problems, I look at them objectively, completely beyond party predilection and affiliation. What is the main problem of the power sector? Seventy per cent of the power sector is in the State Electricity Boards and the State Electricity Boards have been so terribly ravaged financially, administratively and physically by the continuous tinkering and the oppressive intervention of the State Governments. Sir, because of the constraint of time, I will not go extensively into figures. But look at the losses of the State Electricity Boards in the preceding three years. During 1996-97, the loss was Rs. 9,453 crores, during 1997-98, the loss was 10345 crores and during 1998-99, the loss is going to be Rs. 11,378 crores. Year after year, they are losing thousands of crores of rupees. Do we ever expect them to remain in good state of health, financially or otherwise? Do we ever expect them to deliver the goods to give us adequate power, to give us suitable

power? Sir, my esteemed colleague, Shri S.B. Chavan, has rightly pointed out that the plant load factot is very poor. The transmission and distribution facilities have been neglected for so long. The State Electricity Boards in 1997-98 had a plant load factor of 64.4 per cent and the Central sector had a plant load factor of 70.2 per cent. The NTPC is doing fairly well. I do not know why they are not reaching 70 per cent. But in the eastern region, the plant load factor is 41.9 per cent and in the North-Eastern region, it is 21.7 per cent. The southern region is doing well and the plant load factor is 76.6 per cent. Sir, I want to point out ot this House that unless the State Electricity Boards are prevented fairly from tinkering with the working of the State Electricity Boards, we will never be able to see the end of the problem in which the entire electricity sector is besieged. Seventy per cent of it, as I pointed out, is in the State sector. Secondly, there is the Electricity Regulatory Commission Bill which has been passed by Lok Sabha and it is going to come here. I do not want to deal with it in detail. There was not much in that Bill excepting that the Regulatory Commission in the States should be constituted. They have no power to go into generation, transmission or distribution losses. The transmission and distribution loss in the country as a whole is about 17 to 18 per cent. It should not have been more than 6 to 7 per cent. It has been going on for some time. That means things are drastically wrong at that end. But as it is, there was nothing in the Bill. The Commission at the State level had no jurisdictional authority to tinker so far as the generation, distribution or transmission were concerned. But I saw a glimmer of hope of some losses being minimised. Firstly, it was contemplated that every State will have a Regulatory Commission, with an amendment, that has been deleted. It is the option of the State to have a Board or not to have a Regulatory Board. Secondly, there was a very important provision in section 29, which I thought was the first step towards minimising the losses of the State Electricity Boards. But' that has been deleted. The real thing is not to succumb to their partners in the alliance. I know their difficulties. I know the difficulties of this Government. Their partners and alliances are working overtime to see that the Government licks the dust. The political instability is anathema to any sector in the infrastructure, including power sector. But within that atleast, would you not have prevailed upon them and explained to them that the State Electricity Boards need to be streamlined? The need to be made financially viable. Unless that is done, the power problem will remain as it is. One provision that was there to minimise the losses, even that has been deleted. Sir, I leave it at that.

4.00 p.m.

I come to Delhi. Delhi has transmission and distribution losses. As pointed out by my esteemed colleague, Shri Chavan, the busbar is at an arm's length. If they ar genuine losses, it should be zero, but one can give a margin of one per cent or two per cent. It is 49 per cent! Is it a joke, Sir? Are we running an organisation to make it viable? Or, are we running it to send it to the dumps? What are you going to do with it? Is it not high time that you set up a Board under the Electricity Act in Delhi and think of privatising transmission and distribution? In Delhi, there are 220 sub-stations. In a transparent manner, by tendering, you can give it to four or five people, and give the people who come and take up this private distribution, police protection. Tomorrow, you will see, not the day after, improvement in the power. There is adequate power available so far as Delhi is concerned. But whatever be the power, SO per cent is going to be used for thievery, for stealing away. Then, those who pay for it will suffer, arid will continue to suffer. May I know what prevents him now from privatising transmission and distribution of power in Delhi?

SHRI SANATAN BISI (Orissa): Sir, today we are discussing a very, very vital issue. As far as the nation is concerned, and so far as the State of Orissa is concerned, there was a heat wave. Whatever be the death toll at the national level, as far as Orissa is concerned, it was about 1,300. Every day, a large number of persons were admitted in hospitals and public health centres, but they could not get any relief because there was actue shortage of water in the State of Orissa. As far as the drought-prone areas are concerned, as far as the poverty is concerned and as far as the shortage of drinking water is concerned, the State of Orissa is very popular, and you know it.

According to a recent report, in the State of Orissa, there are 1.65 lakh tubewells, and out of those tubewells, 40,000 tubewells are defunct, and in 10,000 tubewells the water is salty, and it cannot be consumed. Out of 74,000 villages, in 8,000 villages there is not a single tubewell! The Orissa Government had demanded an amount of Rs. 4,500 crores from the Centre for setting up tubewells in those 8,000 villages, but it was not coming.

The other point is regarding drinking water problem. So far as the drinking water problem is concerned, I would like to submit that two Central schemes are being implemented, namely, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme and Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme. Sir, as per the Annual Report of the Ministry of Rural Development for 1996-97, the priorities have been identified. It is stated in the Report:—

> "The following priorities have been adopted for coverage of habitations for implementation of Rural Water Supply Programme, as identified in the Survey of 1991—1994:—
>
> (i) to cover 'not covered' (NC) habitations;
>
> (ii) to fully cover partially covered habitations getting less than 10 lpcd;
>
> (iii) to cover all llbitations having water supply problems;
>
> (iv) to supply water to all habitations with per capita supply of less than 40 lpcd @ 40 lpcd; and
>
> (v) to provide safe drinking water facility in every rural primary school.

So far as the State of Orissa is concerned, the priorities have been identified from 1991 to 1994. Till now, all these things are not implemented, as a result of which the State of Orissa is suffering a lot and the people are suffering a lot in these hot days. So, as far as the State of Orissa is concerned, the first priority should be to release the amount demanded by the State Government several years ago. At the same time, the need of the hour is to better target the national schemes for providing drinking water to the vulnerable sections of the society. As far as the State of Orissa is concerned, unless this amount is released immediately, there will be acute drinking water problem in the near future. Therefor, I demand that the amount should be released immediately by the Government so that the drinking-water problem of the people can be solved.

श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे (गुजरात): उपसभाल ध्यक्ष जी, बिजली की समस्या, पानी की समस्या आज देश के सामने गंभीर रूप में खडी है और जैसाकि अभी लखावत जी, साल्वे जी ने कहा, इस समस्या का समाधान अगर हम पार्टी स्थिति से थोड़ा ऊपर उठकर नहीं ढूंढेंगे तो आने वाले दिन हमारे लिए बहुत खराब होंगे। महोदय, आज गुजरात में, राजस्थान में और देश के हर गांव में बिजली का सवाल, पानी का सवाल, पीने के पानी का सवाल समस्या बनकर खड़ा हुआ है। अब हमें इसका समाधान ढूंढना है और हम यह समाधान कैसे ढूंढेंगे? महोदय, मैं विस्तार से बहुत बाते नहीं कहूंगा, लेकिन इस समस्या कर समाधान कैसे निकले, इस के लिए पार्टी के ऊपर उठकर बात करने जा रहा हूं। पिछली सरकारों ने पीने के पानी लिए कुछ काम नहीं किया है, ऐसा मेरा कहना नहीं है। काम बहुत कुछ हुआ है। हर गांव तक पानी और बिजली पहुंचाने के लिए प्रयास हुआ है, पैसा भी दिया गया है, लेकिन समस्या

वही की वही है। इस की वजह क्या है? वह हमें ढूंढनी है।

[उपसभाध्य(श्री सनातन बिसि) पीठासीन हुए]

मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि गुजरात की एक बडी नर्मदा परियोजना आज तक सुप्रीम कोर्ट में पडी है जिस से कि गुजरात के 8-9 जिलों की पीने के पानी हल समस्या हल हो सकती है और किसानों को पानी भी मिल सकता है। मध्य प्रदेश को पूरी बिजली मिल सकती है, राजस्था के किसानों को पानी मिल सकता है, वहां के गांवों की पीने के पानी की समस्या भी हल हो सकती है और मुंबई को बिजली मिल सकती, है, लेकिन यह कई सालों से सुप्रीम कोर्ट में अटली पडी है। महोदय, मैं उस के डिटेल में नहीं जाना चाहता, लेकिन क्या हम उस के बारे में बैठकर नहीं सोच सकते हैं? सब साथ में बैठकर इस का कोई अच्छा समाधान निकालें तो इन प्रदेश के लोगों को काफी लाभ हो सकता है। महोदय, मैं कच्छ से आता हूं जोकि बॉर्डर पर है। अभी लखावत जी ने सही बात कही कि रेगिस्तान राजस्था और गुजरात दोनों जगहों पर है और यहां की सरकारों ने बहुत कुछ किया है। अभी हमारे हमारे साथी बता रहे थे डेजर्ट डवलपमेंट प्रोग्राम, हैबीटेशन और ए0आर0डबल्यू0एस0पी0 के अंतर्गत प्रावधान है कि 50 प्रतिशत राज्य सरकार और 50 प्रतिशत केन्द्र सरकार देगी। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, इस योजना के अंतर्गत बहुत कुछ पैसा दिया गया है, लेकिन अभी इसी राज्य सभा में दिनांक 28मई, 1998 को पूछे गए एक सवाल के उत्तर में बताया गया है कि और कई स्टेट्स को भी डी0डी0पी0 के अंतर्गत पैसा दिया गया है। अब मैं यहां कहना चाहता हूं कि डी0डी0पी0 माने डेजर्ट डवलपमेंट प्रोग्रम तो इस के अंतर्गत गुजरात को पैसा दिया गया है और गुजरात में रेगिस्तान है इसलिए यह सही है, लेकिन हिमाचल को पैसा दिया गया है, हरियाणा को पैसा दिया गया है और जम्मू-कश्मीर को पैसा दिया गया है। महोदय, गुजरात को और राजस्थान को पैसा मिले, वह तो सही बात है। लेकिन इसको क्या दिया गया? और, आज नहीं दिया, कई सालों से दिया जा रहा है। यह जो योजनाओं में गलत प्रावधान रहते है डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन में, इसको देखना चाहिए। ब्यूरोक्रेट्स तो आफिस में बैठे होंगे और सोच रहे होंगे कि दे दो डी0पी0पी0 में अब वहां रेगिस्तान है तो ठीक, नहीं है तो भी दे दो और वहां भी दे दिया। इसी वजह से यह पानी की समस्या हमारी हल नहीं ह ओ रही है।

महोदय, मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि वाटर मैनेजमेंट होना चाहिए। जब हमारा यह नर्मदा का इस्यु हल हो जाएगा तो गुजरात को, जिस से मैं आता हूं वहां और सौराष्ट्र के 7 जिलों के सभी गांव में पीने के पानी की समस्या का समाधान हो जाएगा। आज तो हमारी स्थिति बडी दयनीय हो गई है अभी दो दिन पहले वहां साइक्लोन आया, जिससे वहां बिजली की समस्या खडी हो गई है, मेरे गांव में, जहां में रहता हूं, 15 तारीख को बिजली आएगी। आज वह पूरा इलाका देश से अलग हो गया है। वहां दो हजार से ज्यादा लोग मर गए है साइक्लोन में, यह मैं आफिशियली कहता हूं, अभी जितनी डैड बोडी मिली है उससे लगता है दो हजार से ज्यादा लोग मर गए है। रास्ते वहां टूट गए है, बिजली के खम्भे उखड़ गए हैं। वहां बिजली है नहीं, पानी है नहीं। ऐसी स्थिति में वहां लोग रहते है। यह स्थिति वहां की है। इसीलिए मैं कह रहा हूं कि पार्टी से ऊपर उठकर, हम सबको साथ बैठकर इस समस्या पर सोचना होगा और तभी यह समस्या, बिजली और पानी की, हल हो पाएगी। इसमें नर्मदा एक साधन है। आज यह समस्या सुप्रीम कोर्ट में पडी है। चारों स्टेट्स को साथ में बैठकर हल निकालना होगा, जिसका अवार्ड आ गया है। अगर साथ मिलकर हम काम आगे बढ़ाएंगे तो मुझे लगता है कि इस समस्या का समाधान हो जाएगा। राजस्थान और गुजरात में जो पीने के पानी की समस्या खदी हो गई है, इससे उसका भी रास्ता निकलेगा। इसके लिए हम साथ में बैठकर भी रास्ता निकलेगा। इसके लिए हम साथ में बैठकर सोचें, तभी यह हो सकता है।

महोदय, बिजली की भी स्थिति वही है। यहां दिल्ली वाले दिल्ली की बात करते है, लेकिन गावं में तो टेंकर से पानी मिलता ही नहीं है। वहां बिजली नहीं है तो पानी कहां से मिलेगा। बिजली आज की जरूरी मांग है। हर इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड की स्थिति यही है कि उसका जो एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन चल रहा है, सभी बोर्ड घाटे में है। उसकी वजह है। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहूंगा कि को इंडिया, अपने यहां से जो स्टेट इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड को कोल इंडिया, अपने यहां से जो स्टेट इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड को कोयला भेजते है, वह उसकी ज्यायंट सेम्पलिंग नहीं करने देते और जिससे कोयले की जगह पत्थर आते है। ज्वायंट सेम्पलिंग करने के लिए वह वहां का आग्रह रखते है कि बिहार में आइए। इधर बिहार में जो इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड के लोग जाते है, उनकी स्थिति ऐसी है, मैं बताता हूं, कि दो लोगों जाते है की जो जान गई है, इस वजह से इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड का कोई भी आदमी वहां नहीं जाते। यह ज्वायंट सेम्पलिंग ओन द स्पोट, जहां थर्मल पावर स्टेशन है वहां, होनी चाहिए। अगर मान लीजिए कुछ माल कम हो गया, चोरी हो गया तो वह बात तो हम समझ सकते है, लेकिन इनफीरियर क्वालिटि का माल कम आता है, पत्थर आता है कोयले की जगह। यह जो

ज्वायंट सेम्पलिंग नहीं करने देते, उसकी वजह से धर्मल पावर स्टेशन भी खराब होते है, चल नहीं पाते है। इसके कारण भी बिजली की एक बडी समस्या पूरे देश में खडी हो जाती है। मेरा निवेदन है कि सभी सभा में बैठकर यह जो एक बडी समस्या देश के सामने है, बिजली की और पानी की, इसका समाधान ढूंढ़े । आज इस सदन में जब इस पर चर्चा हो रही है तो अच्छे से अच्छे सुझाव आएंगे। मैं इस संबंध में माननीय मंत्री महोदय से चाहूंगा कि इन अच्छे से अच्छे सुझावों को रखकर वह सभी के साथ बैठकर इस समस्या का हल निकालें। इसका मुझे पूरा विश्वास है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने के लिए जो समस्य दिया, उसके लिए बहुत बहुत धन्यवाद।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): श्री ईश दत्त यादव। यादव जी, आपका पांच मिनट का टाइम है।

श्री ईश दत्त यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): ठीक है, उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय। मैं आपके आदेश का पालन करूंगा।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, देश में बिजली और पानी के संकट के बारे मैं आज यह पूरा सदन चिन्तित है, हम लोग चिन्तित है और मैं समझता हूं कि बिजली वाले मंत्री और पानी वाले मंत्री भी चिन्तित होंगे।

लेकिन यह चिंता अभी नई दिल्ली में नहीं है, असल समस्या तो पुरानी दिल्ली में है, यमुना पार के रहने वालों की है और इस देश में जो पांच-छ लाख गांवों में लोग रहते है, य अह उनकी समस्या है। इस समय संकट इतना हो गया है उत्तर प्रदेश में, यह मैं आज के समाचार पत्र में से पढ़ रहा हूं, कि भदोही, चंदोली में पानी पांच रुपए प्रति गिलास बिक रहा है। वहां संक्रामक रोगों में वृद्वि हो रही है और झोला डाक्टरों की चांदी हो गई है। गंदा पानी मिल रहा है और पांच रुपए गिलास बिक रहा है। मान्यवर, बुन्देलखंड, जो पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश का एक हिस्सा है, और मिर्जापुर प्रखंड, यहां पर 20 रुपए बाल्टी पानी बिक रहा है और बिजली का तो कुछ कहना ही नहीं है।

मान्यवर उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, बिजली और पानी का एक दूसरे से गहरा संबंध है- पानी से बिजली बनती है और बिजली से पानी निकलता है और इन दोनों की आज इस देश में कमी हो गई है। मेरी समझ में इसके लिए चार लोग जिम्मेदार हो सकते है। सरकार की लापरवाही हो सकती है, नीयत में इनकी कमी नहीं हो सकती। मैं इस सरकार को नहीं कह रहा हूं, जो सरकारें इससे पहले रही हैं, जिन्होंने योजनाएं बनाई हैं बिजली और पानीके लिए, उन योजनाओं पर इन्होंने पूरी दृढ़ इच्छा-शक्ति से पालन नहीं किया। आज बिजली की सारी योजनाएं लम्बित पडी हुई है। मेरा समय पांच मिनत है, इसलिए मैं सारी योजनाओं का वर्णन नहीं करना चाहता हूं। उत्तर प्रदेश की बिजली की योजनाएं लम्बित पडी हैं, आज तक न पिछली सरकार ने मंजूरी दी, न इस सरकार ने कोई उन पर चिंतन किया है। मैंने एक समाचार पत्र में जरूर पढ़ा है कि जो हमारे माननीय प्रधान मंत्री, जी अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी हैं, उनके क्षेत्र के लिए एक योजना स्वीकार दी गई है, पता नहीं यह सही है या गलत है और इस समाचार में है कि प्रधान मंत्री जी के क्षेत्र लखन ऊ में चार अरब रुपए की एक योजना चालू की जा रही है और वहां सारे बिजली के तार बदलकर, ट्रांसफार्मर बदलकर नए लगाए जाएंगे। मैं नहीं जानता कि यह समाचार सही है या नहीं। अगर यह समाचार सही है तो मैं प्रार्थना करूंगा कि प्रधान मंत्री जी को पूरे देश को एक दृष्ट से देखना चाहिए, केवल एक ही क्षेत्र को नहीं देखना चाहिए। मान्यवर, पिछली सरकारों ने इस योजनाओं की जल्दी-जल्दी मंजूरी नहीं दी, बिजली मंत्री बैठे हैं, इसलिए मैं उनसे कहूंगा कि वे इन पर गंभीरता से विचार करें और इनकी मंजूरी दें। अब दूसरा कारण है, मान्यवर, बिजली की चोरी। हमारे विद्युत मंत्री श्री रेगराजन कुमारमंगलय का 11 जून, 1998 का "नवभारत टाइम्स" में एक बयान है कि दिल्ली में बिजली की बहुत भयंकर चोरी चल रही है और उन्होंने इसे बहुत ही गंभीर बताया है लेकिन यह भी कहा है कि मैं इसे रातों-रात हल नहीं कर सकता । माननीय मंत्री जी, आप इसे रातों-रात नहीं, महीनों में हल कर दें तो ही अच्छा हो क्योंकि बिजली चोरी के कारण इस देश में बिजली के जो असल उपभोक्ता हैं उनको बिजली नहीं मिल रही है। आप उत्तर प्रदेश में देखें, उत्तर प्रदेश के बारे में एक समाचार छपा है कि 30 जून तक वहां अवैध विद्युत कनेक्शन्स को वैध कर दिया जाएगा। यू0पी0 गवर्नमेंट ने कहा कि जो चोरी से बिजली ले रहे हैं हम इस को अब लीगलाइज़ कर रहे हैं। यह क्या तरीका है? जब तक इस पर कठोर उपाय नहीं किए जाएंगे, बिजली की चोरी को रोका नहीं जाएगा, बिजली के अनुचित प्रयोग को रोका नहीं जाएगा तक तक सही मायनों में बिजली देश में उपभोक्ताओं को नहीं मिल पाएगी।

मान्यवर , बिजली बोर्डों को बदलना बहुत जरूरी है और उत्तर प्रदेश का बिजली बोर्ड एकदम सफेद हाथी हो गया है, रोट्न डिपार्टमेंट हो गयी है और वहां का विद्युत विभाग का जो चेयरमैन है, वह रिटायर्ड कर्मचारी है, रिटायर्ड इंजीनियर है। हमारे मुख्य मंत्री प्रसन्न हो गए

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और उनकी नियुक्ति कर दी। अब जो विद्युत बोर्ड का रिटायर्ड चेयरमैन है उसकी वजह से पूरे उत्तर प्रदेश के अंदर अव्यवस्था है। उपसभध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका ज्यादा समय नहीं लेना चाहता हूं। मैं केवल 3-4 सुझाव आपके माध्यम से सरकार के सामने रखना चाहता हूं। पहला सुझाव यह है कि पानी और बिजली की जो लंबित योजनाएं हैं, उनको आप स्वीकार करें। उत्तर प्रदेश की पानी की और बिजली की बहुत सी योजनाएं लंबित पडी है। उनको अलग-अलग बताने के लिए यहां समय नहीं है। मेरा निवेदन है कि आप उन्हें स्वीकार करें और पूरे देश की योजनाओं को स्वीकार करें।

महोदय, जब तक आप विद्युत बोर्डों में आमूलचूल परिवर्तन नहीं करेंगे, तब तक देश के लोगों को बिजली नहीं मिल सकेगी। बिजली का पूरा उत्पादन भी नहीं हो सकेगा। महोदय, मेरा अंतिम निवेदन यह है कि योजनाएं तो सभी सरकारों ने बनाई और अच्छी नीयत से बनाई। उन योजनाओं को देश के अधिकारियों और कर्मचारियों ने, जो बिजली विभाग के कर्मचारी उनसे संबंधित थे और जल विभाग से भी संबंधित थे, उन लोगों ने उन्हें लागू नहीं किया। आज भी ट्रांसफॉर्मर जल जाते हैं, महीनों बदले नहीं जाते हैं, पानी का संकट हो जाता है, फसले सूख जाती है। मंत्री जी ने एक बयान दिया है कि दिल्ली में कुछ लोगों को हमने निलंबित कर दिया है। हम मंत्री जी से कहना चाहेंगे? कि अब निलंबित करने से अधिकारी डरने वाली नहीं है । कल आप जब हट जाएंगे तो दूसरा आएगा और उसे रि इनस्टेट कर देगा औड़ तीसरा आएगा तो प्रमोट कर देगा। इसलिए मैं वर्तमान सरकार से मांग करता हूं कि आप कानून मैं वर्तमान सरकार से मांग करता हूं कि आप कानून में संशोधन करिए। जो अधिकारी और कर्मचारी लापरवही करता है, जनता के प्रति अपना उत्तरदायित्व नहीं निभाता है, उसके लिए कानून में प्रोविजन कीजिए ताकि अगर आवश्यकता पड़े तो उसे दंडित भी किया जा सके।

मान्यवर, आपने मुझे बोलने के लिए समय दिया , मैं इसके लिए आपका ह्रदय से आभारी हूं। मैं चाहूंगा कि देश में बिजली और जल की जो गंभीर समस्या है, इसको हल करने केलिए आप प्रयास करे। लखावत जी यहां बैठे हुए हैं। इन्होंने जो कहा, वही कहकर मैं अपनी बात खत्म कर देना चाहता हूं। आज से 600 साल पहले रहीमदास जी ने यह समझा था कि-

"रहिमन पानी राखिए, बिन पानी का सून।
पानी गए न ऊबरे, मोती मानस चून।।"

महोदय, 600 साल पहले उन्होंने यह समझ लिया था कि देश में पानी का संकट आने वाला है। इसलिए रहीम जी को स्मरण करते हुए मैं सरकार से अपील करूंगा कि बिजली मंत्री, जल मंत्री और सरकार गंभीरता से इस विषय में सोचे और इस देश का पानी रखें क्योंकि देश का पानी आप नहीं रखेंगे तो एक चुल्लू पानी तो आपकी सरकार को मिल जाएगा डुबने के लिए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI) Shri Solipeto Ramachandra Ready,
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SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you very much, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. I will definitely try to finish even before seven minutes. I am very happy that these problems, the power problem and the drinking water problem, are under discussion here and are above politics. All voices are one. There are no difference of opinion. As far as power is concerned, we could not imagine the requirements of the future. In that way, we have failed and as far as drinking water is concerned, we have spent a lot of money on drinking water but even today it is shameful to one and all of us. Even today some habitants, ladies have to go half a kilometre or a kilometre to get a pot of water. It is a very unfortunate thing. As far as this problem is concerned, it is not the problem of any one State or of Delhi. My State, Andhra Pradesh, is also facing acute shortage of power. Sir, our Chief Minister, seeing the intensity of the problem himself, has taken over the portfolio and I think some of you know very well that every morning at 6 o' clock he goes through the report on a computer, from all the divisions, from all the districts and sees which areas have got power, which areas did not get power, where the problem is, how to solve it. He himself is personally monitoring this issue. Everyday in the morning he discusses with the Electricity Board people and tries his level best to solve the problem. Unfortunately, we do not have the generation of power which we need. It is not sufficient. Therefore, even after many attempts of our Chief Minister we are unable to satisfy the cultivators on

the one side and the industrialists are domestic users on the other. So far a agriculture is concerned, our Government is taking every care to see to it that the agriculturists do not suffer. Our Chief Minister is trying his level best to supply power at least for nine hours to every agriculturist. By utilising the machinery of the State Electricity Board, he is also trying his level best to minimise thefts as far as possible. But still we are unable to meet the power requirements of our State.

Sir, we have some issues which are pending for long with the Central Goverment. Please permit me to utilise this opportunity to highlight those issues. I don't want to criticise anybody. But I do want to request the Central Government, and particularly the hon. Power Minister, to look into these issues and solve our problems. These are very genuine issues, Sir.

Our Government has been demanding fuel-linkage. Just for want of fuel-linkage, we have been unable to generate 1067 MW of power. We have been requesting the Central Government for more than a year now. If this fuel-linkage had been given by the Central Government, we would have generated power and most of our problems would have been solved. In two cases, Magarjuna Construction Co. Ltd. with a cpacity of 227 MW and Ispat Power limited with a capacity of 468 MW, PPA was signed on 31.3.1997. It is more than a year now. Apart from these two, there are two other projects, the 200 MW barge-mounted power station by M/s Oakwell Engineering and 172 MW capacity Vijjeswaram Stage-2 project. All these four project come to 1067 MW. I request the hon. Minister of Power to kindly arrange fuel-linkage at the earliest possible opportunity and solve this problem of our State.

Then, we require additional naphtha allocation for Godavari Gas-based Power Project at Kakinada. It needs 90,000 MT of naphtha, whereas only 30,000 is being released. We have been consistently requesting for allotment of 60,000 MT of naphtha, but we haven't been able to get it. I request the hon. Minister to kindly allot this 60,000 MT of naphtha immediately.

Sir, all of us are aware that we have got this cyclone. Andhra generally gets storms, floods and cyclones. A big cyclone came a year ago and many installations were completely damaged. Our Government had requested for additional financial support of Rs. 150 crores for carrying out repairs and for restoring the damaged installations—through the A.P. State Electricity Board. We have been pursuing this matter. And we have been requesting the Central Government to sanction Rs. 150 crores either from the Power Finance Corporation or Rural Electrification Corporation. I request the hon. Minister to kindly get this amount sanctioned.

So far as electricity is concerned, Sir, if the hon. Minister of power is kind enough to solve the problems, which I have mentioned just now, we will be in a better position to meet the requirements of our farmers and others.

So far as the problem of drinking water is concerned, there is acute shortage of drinking water in our State. The original allocation under ARWS is Rs. 79.64 -crores. The State Government has requested the Central Government to raise an additional grant of Rs. 50.36 crores. This has been pending for a long time. I request that this amount should be released immediately under ARWS.

Sir, during 1997-98 the Government of India cleared three drinking water pilot projects for Nandigama, Medak and Tamballapalli. The estimated cost of these projects is Rs. 31.4 crores. The Government of India has sanctioned the amount but it has not yet been released. I request that this amount may kindly be released immediately so that the problem of drinking water in these areas could be solved.

Sir, the most important of all is that in Andhra Pradesh there are 12,068 fluoride affected habitations and 8,519 brakish-water affected habitations. During the 8th Plan, projects were approved to provide safe drinking water to 9,383 habitations. Still there are 11,204 habitations which are to be provided with safe drinking water. Sir, the unfortunate thing is that the funding pattern under the submission projects has been changed. Previously, the Central Government used to give 75 per cent and the State Governments were supposed to spend 25 per cent, But, recently, they have changed it to 50:50. As a result of this, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan will not be able to provide safe drinking water to the people. Therefore I appeal, through you Sir, to the Government to review this decision and restore the previous arrangements of 75:25. Thank you very much, Sir.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I will be very brief because I know the time at my disposal. Sir, it is very appropriate that this House has commenced a discussion on power and water because both are inter-linked. Unless you have power, you cannot lift-up water for supply to the township or to the villages. Sir, we have seen the crisis even hitting the Parliament. This morning, we have the crisis of time. The watches in this House were not synchronising. That is one of the problems this national Capital is facing—the power crisis. Sir, my colleague, Sir Chavanji has already spoken in detail in this regard. I have also raised the issue of naphtha-based power plants in the country. Sir, the total capacity projection for the Ninth Five Year Plan is 92,000 megawatts and we have an installed capacity of 80,000 megawatts. At the moment, we have about 56,000 megawatts and the requirement we can fulfil during the terminal period of the

Ninth Five Year Plan will be 65,000 megawatts. I don't think we will achieve that target because something has gone wrong in the planning. I don't think the Planning Commission is very alive to this crisis because everytime they hit the target. The money is made available by the Government. I don't know why they are not able to achieve the target. I won't suggest here that there is a sabotage because often we see that there is a shortfall so that we can help and support the private sector, the multinationals and the foreign companies to come in this country.

Sir, yesterday the Minister mentioned that there are about 67 private naphtha-based power plants in the pipeline. The toal investment the Government will bear for these plants is to the tune of 1800 million dollars. I want to ask of the Minister these power plants are basically a stop-gap arrangement to fulfil the demand, the temporary demand gap of 12,000 megawatts which we have. They are not going to create any infrastructure in the country, but they are basically fly-by-night operators because they will just install a small genset, I mean you have a turbine from a plane, you put it in garage, you feed in fuel. As already mentioned, no other country throughout the world supports or encourages such units. Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister, because I have got assurances in the past from other Governments'—now, naphtha is imported in this country and it is subsidised for two industries, petroleum and fertilizers—whether the Government will provide these private operators the subsidised naphtha or they will have to buy it in the international market, pay the due taxes here in the country which come to about 45 per cent, 25 per cent is Customs and 20 per cent is Excise. I want to know whether the Government will give them protection and whether the Government will use the foreign exchange, this 1800 million dollars, from its coffers or it will make those private companies, most of them are multinationals, they have their foreign exchange. I want to know whether this drain on the foreign exchange will be on the Government or on the private companies.

Secondly, we have seen the power generated from coal. The coal in our country is very poor because residue in coal is about 40 per cent.. Our coal is a drift coal and the content of fly ash i$ very high. And wherever you have fly ash, there is a factor of radiation and we don't have any planning system in our country.

Whenever we take coal from coal fields, we transport it by either rail or trucks miles away. As a result, the cost of power increases because you are using transport for coal. I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister that they can transmit power from the mining field itself and the cavity so created after mining the coal, they should fill it with fly-ash. That will solve the problem of radiation and fly-ash. I think, transmitting power by wire will be much cheaper than transporting coal by railways or by road transport. I would like the hon. Minister to inform me whether there is any study conducted by any institution in the country as to what would be the financial implication of it and which one would be cheaper, viable and environment—friendly. Now the Minister spoke about pilferage, pilferage up to 49%. We do not know whether pilferage is a technical term. Power can leak, there can be earthing. You cannot connect pilferage with theft. Theft is away from pilferage. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will have a CBI cell within the power grids. We had a number of scams in banks and the Government has rightly started a CBI cell in banks to check the scams. In his self-confessed statement the Minister said that there is theft and we agree with the Minister. You have to do something about it when there is a theft of power from 40% to 50%. I do not think it will be possible without the connivance of the officials. Yesterday while discussing, we were told that last year the Government was planning to get power from a neighbouring country, Pakistan. Yesterday, my colleague, Mr. C. M. Ibrahim did mention to the hon. Minister that a Gulf country, the UAF was supposed to give us power by submarine Cables and I think, it will be much cheaper. There is no investment from the Government. I also happened to visit that country with the President of India and this matter did come up during ministerial meetings. Their Minister replied that if there were any proposals, they would certainly take it up. I think, it is for the Government of India to take the initiative. We should not wait because it is only we who are facing the problem. It is for us to take the initiative. Even private people, if they are interested in power industry, the Government of India should encourage them and give them subsidies.

Sir, it has also a link with the water system in the country. I do not think there is any shortage of water in the country when we look at non-availability of water. Potable water is not available in this country because it is mismanaged. We have seen that the power sector is privatised. Why do we not privatise water supply also? We have seen that most, of the water problem is due to mismanagement and I would give an example of our capital, Delhi. It was planned by the British. When we go to our residences we see there are two types of water supply. There is potable water supply which we get in our houses. There is another type of water which is untreated which we get into the gardens. This system is available only in Delhi, I think. Most of the water is wasted and drained and sent in the rivers or into the sea. If the scheme is drawn up for the whole nation, it would be nice. We have a Water Technology Mission started by our late Rajiv Gandhi. If this idea is shown to the States, to the Municipal Corporations, Panchayats, I think, investment will not be a problem and it will not be much. At the moment we are spending so much on water subsidy. This water goes back into the ground water. But we use this water for gardening, for construction. I think, the Government of India should have a proper planning for the future. This year being the Golden Year of India's Independence, the

Government should come forward with a proper perspective to see that water management in this country is properly done.

Thank you.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): जलालुदीन अंसारी जी आप पांच मिनट में समाप्त करिए।

श्री जलालुदीन अंसारी (बिहार): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज हमारा देश आजादी की पचासवीं वर्षगांठ मना रहा है, मानानी भी चाहिए इसलिए कि इससे खुशी की बात देशवासियों के लिए और कोई हो नहीं सकती है। लेकिन इसी मौके पर आज दो महत्वपूर्ण और खास चीजों के लिए हम चिन्ता व्यक्त कर रहे हैं कि आजादी के पचास साल बाद भी अपने देश की जनता को पाये। इसलिए सवाल किसी दल का नहीं है, य अह राष्ट्रीय सवाल है और सरकार किनकी भी रही हो और आज भी है, कभी भी इस प्रश्न पर लोगों ने गम्भीरता से विचार नहीं किया। हम आशा करते हैं कि यह जो नई सरकार आई है इसको गम्भीरता से लोगों और इस समस्या का सही समाधान निकालेगी इसलिए कि उनका एक एजेण्डा है समाधान। पेयजल का समाधान और बिजली का जो संकट है, इसका भी समाधान और बिजली का जो संकट है, इसका भी समाधान करेगी तो हम इनको सहयोग करने के लिए तैयार है। सवाल किसी दल विशेष का नहीं है लेकिन दुर्भाग्य की बात यह रही है कि 50 साल में इन गम्भीर और महत्वपूर्ण समस्याओं का हल नहीं निकाला जा सका है।

देश के ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में करीब एक तिहाई आबादी को अभी भी पेयजल की सुविधा नहीं है और जहां सुंविधा है भी तो आंशिक सुविधा है, पार्शियल फैसिलिटी है, पूरी सुविधाएं उनको नहीं दी गई है। सरकार की योजना की कमजोरी कहां है? 1997-98 और 1998-99 में जो इन्होंने पेयजल के लिए राशि आबंटित की है उसमें यह होगा कि हैंडपम्प स्टैण्ड पम्प को लागा देना। लेकिन कभी इस बात की समीक्षा नहीं की गई है कि पिछले दिनों जो हैंडपम्प स्टैण्ड पम्प लगाए गए, वे कि हालत में है। मैं दावे के साथ कहना चाहता हूं इस सदन में और मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूं आपके माध्यम से उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय कि इसकी जांच पूरे देश में कहा ली जाए कि जो भी चापाकल और स्टेंड पम्प गाड़े गए है वे काम करते है या नहीं? वे काम इसलिए नहीं कर रहे है उनकी कोई मरम्मत की व्यवस्था नहीं है और न ही कोई उनकी मेटिनेस की व्यवस्था है। वह कागज पर है कि पीएचडी के द्वारा राज्य सरकारें अपनी करती हैं। कुछ नहीं करती है। जो राज्य करते हैं उनको मैं बधाई देना चाहता हूं। लेकिन आम तौर पर पुराने चापाकल गाड़ दिए जाते है वे बिगड़ जाते हैं उनकी मरम्मत व रखरवाव की कोई बात नहीं होती है। सरकारी रिपोर्ट में है कि इतने पम्प काम कर रहे हैं और लोगों को पीने का पानी मिल रहा है। य अह सही तथ्य नहीं है, तभ्य कुछ दूसरा है, इसलिए इस पर भी आपको विचार करना चाहिए। हमारा तो यह सुझाव होगा कि करीब देश की एक तिहाई आबादी जो ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों मे है उसके लिए पेयजल है हो नहीं और जो हैंडपम्प और स्डैंडपम्प गाड़े जाते है उनको इतनी दूरी पर गाड़ दिया जाता है कि जहां प लोंग उसका इस्तेमाल नहीं कर पाते है। तरह-तरह से उसका मिसयूज कहिए, दुरुपयोग कहिए वह भी होता है और ऐसी जगह पर गाड़ दिया जाता है जहां साल्टी वाटर होता है जिसके पीने से उनको बीमारी, हो जाता है। वहां पर गाड़ा जाए जहां से उससे सेफ वाटर मिलता रहे। आठवीं योजना में भी जो लक्ष्य रखा गया था वह भी पूरा नहीं हो सका। है। नवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में जो लक्ष्य है, करीब-करीब सरकार का अनुमान है कि 2000 ईस्वी तक पेयजल की समस्या का समाधान कर पायेगी। अगर इसी तरह से योजनाएं चलती रही और कोई सही राष्ट्रीय नीति नहीं बनाई गई, जो गड़बडियां हैं उनको नहीं देखा गया तो 2000 ईस्वी तक तो क्या 2005 या 2010 तक भी इस देश की जनता को पेयजल मुहैया नहीं करा सकते है। इसलिए हम सरकार से चाहेंगे कि यह जो हमारी समस्या है, इस समस्या का सही तरीके से आप निदान निकालें।

दूसरी बात यह है कि जो हमारे नये तरीके है वह तो चलें, इनको और भी अच्छा बनाइये लेकिन पुराने जो हमारे परम्परागत वाटर स्टोर करने के तरीके थे, उनको करीब-करीब समाप्त कर दिया गया है। अधिकांश इलाकों में जैसे कि अभी लखावत जी बोल रहे थे, इन्होंने पूरा अध्ययन किया है, पूरे देश के हर राज्य में पोखर होते थे, तालाब होते थे और बड़े-बड़े जलाशय भी होते थे जिनको मेनटेन करके रखा जाता था। जब बारिश होती थी उनके पानी का इस्तेमाल होता था और जानवरों को भी पानी मिलता था और कृषि के इए भी इस्तेमाल होता था। लेकिन आप देखेंगे कि पुराने जल के जो स्रोत थे, वह अधिकांश सभी राज्यों में समाप्त हो गये हैं। हम आज अंडरग्राऊंड जाना चाहते है लेकिन मेरा सुझाव यह है कि जहां आधुनिक पेयजल व्यवस्था को बढ़ाने की जरूरत है, परम्परागत जो पानी सग्रंह करने की हमारी चीज़े है, उनको भी हमें रखना चाहिये तभी

हम बड़े पैमाने पर कृषि के क्षेत्र में भी इस्तेमाल कर सकते है और उसको लाभ मिल सकता है।

जहां तक बिजली का सवाल है, अगर इस देश को विकास करना है और विकास करना ही है तो बिजली के बगैर न कृषि का विकास हो सकता है और न उद्योगोम का विकास हो सकता है। कोई भी देश अगर सही मायने में अपना चहुमुखी विकास करना चाहता है तो उद्योग और कृषि के विकास के लिए आवश्यक है कि बिजली का उत्पादन विभिन्न तरीकों से बढ़ावा जाए। इसके लिए हमारी एक राष्ट्रीय नीति होनी चाहिये। हमें अभी तक इसमें पूरी राष्ट्रीय नीति होनी चाहिये। हमें अभी तक इसमें पूरी कामयाबी नहीं मिल पाई। कुछ हमारे पुराने प्लांट राज्यों में है जो काम नहीं कर रहे हैं, कुछ बैठ गये हैं, नॉन-वर्किग है। राज्य सरकारे या केन्द्रीय सरकार सही समय पर राशि दे कर इनको माडर्नाइज करें और चलाना चाहिये लेकिन वह नहीं हो पा रहा है। विभिन्न राज्यों में जो बिजली की परियोजनाएं हैं, चाहें केन्द्रीय सरकार की हों या राज्य सरकारों की हों, उनको पूरा करने के लिए एक टाइम बाऊंड योजना होना चाहिये और एक निश्चित अवधि के अन्दर उनको पूरा किया जाना चाहिये। इसलिए राज्य और केन्द्र सरकार पूरा सहयोग करें और बिजली परियोजनाओं को पूरा किया जाना चाहिये। अगर यह नहीं करेंगे तो निश्चित तौर पर कृषि की जो बात हो रही है, किसानों को लाभ देने की बात हो रही है, कृषि के लिए बिजली चाहिये, उद्योग के लिए बिजली चाहिये, बिजली का उत्पादन बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता है। बिजली का जो ट्रांसमिशन है उसमें जो गड़बडियां हैं उसको ठीक करने की जरूरत है सब से बडी गड़बडी डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन में, आपूर्ति में हो रही है। अभी दिल्ली को ही ले लीजिये। अभी साल्वे जी और दूसरे साथियों ने चर्चा की कि राज्य बिजली बोर्ड की हालत खस्ता है। वे दिवालिया है। कहीं-कहीं तो राज्य सरकार जो उनसे बिजली लेती है उनके पैसे नहीं देती है। विश्व बैंक से कहीं-कहीं फाइनेस हुए है तो उसी फाइनेंस से चल रही हैं। बिजली चोरी वगैरह की बात तो आ चुकी है। उसमें हम ज्यादा नहीं जाना चाहते हैं। मेरा सुझाव है कि जो राज्य बिजली बोड्र्स है उनको पुनर्गठित करने की जरूरत है। उनको स्वायत्तता, आटोनामी भी मिलनी चाहिए। उनको साधन भी मिलने चाहिए, रिसोसेंज भी मिलने चाहिए तभी वे सही तरीके से इन चीजों की ओर बढ़ सकते हैं अन्यथा बिजली में सुधार करने की हालत में इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोड्र्स नहीं है।

दिल्ली में हमारे पावर मिनिस्टर ने कोशिश की। मींटिग बुलायी। दिल्ली विद्युत बोर्ड के अधिकारी खुद उसमें रहे, सुषमा स्वराज जी भी रहीं। पहले 10 परसेंट था फिर 10 से बढ़ाकर 25 परसेंट का दिया। फिर भी यहां की डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन की हालत दिल्ली शहर में सुधरी नहीं हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी के प्रयास के बावजूद भी। दिल्ली, चाहे वह दक्षिण दिल्ली हो, उत्तरी दिल्ली हो, पश्चिमी दिल्ली हो। पूर्वी दिल्ली हो, वहां की हालत अभी तक सुधरी नहीं है। हर रोज आप अखबार में पढ़िए और देखिए कि क्या हालत है । जब बिजली सप्लाई नहीं तो उसके चलते वाटर की भी सप्लाई बंद है। मैं तो यहां तक कहता हूं कि हम लोग जो नार्थ एवेन्यू में रहते हैं यहां दिन में दो-तीन बार बिजली 10 मिनत, 20 मिनट, आधे घंटे या एक घंटे के लिए आती और जाती रहती है। तो जो वी-आई0पी0 कहिए या वी0वी0आई0पी0 क्या है मालूम नहीं, ऐसी जगहों में भी जाती है। अब राष्ट्रपति जी के यहां जाती है कि नहीं मालूम नहीं । उनके यहां अलग व्यवस्था होगी। लेकिन नार्थ एवेन्यू में तो कभी कभी जाती है ...(समय की घंटी)।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): टाइम हो गया है आपका।

श्री जलालुदीन अंसरी: तो हम यह सुझाव देना चाहते हैं कि चाहे वह दक्षिण दिल्ली का साकेत हो, आर0के0पुरम हो या बहुत सार दिल्ली के अन्य क्षेत्र हों वहां व्यापक संकट है। यह राष्ट्रव्यापी संकट है इसको हल करें। हमारे मंत्री जी ने यहां स्वयं प्रयास भी किए हैं। हम चाहते हैं कि इन दोनों सवालों को सही ढंग से लिया जाए ...(समय की घंटी)

एक बात और कहकर मैं खत्म करता हूं। सरकार की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार 86 प्रतिशत गांवों में बिजलीकरण कर दिया गया है । पोल गड़ गए हैं, लाइन भी लग गयी हैं । लेकिन आए देंखेगे कि बहुत जगह गांवों में पोल भी नहीं है, तार भी नहीं है और इसलिए बिजली जाने का सवाल भी नहीं है। सच्चाई यह भी है। एक बार लग गए, खत्म हो गया। फिर उसको कौन देखने वाला है। वह रिपोर्ट तो है कि इतने लग जाए। लेकिन मिलती है कि नहीं, पता नहीं। एक तो यह भी है कि अलग-अलग राज्यों की बिहार राज्य की तो वही स्थिति है। मैं उस राज्य का रहने वाला हूं। बिजली गयी, तार काट दिया, पोल उखड़ गए, कोई देखने वाला नहीं है। लेकिन रिपोर्ट में तो है कि इतने गांवो में इलेक्ट्रीफिकेशन हो गया और रिपोर्ट रहेगी आगे तक। लेकिन वस्तुस्थिति, व्यवहार में सच्चाई भिन्न है। तो यह समस्या जटिल है और हम चाहते हैं कि सरकार वाटर पालिसी, एनर्जी पालिसी, पावर पालिसी को ठीक से बनाए। इसको लागू करके जनता को मुहैया कराए। इसमें हम लोगों का सहयोग

आपको मिलेगा। इसमें कहीं दो राय नहीं है। हम समझते हैं कि ये मंत्री जी काफी अनुभवी हैं, बुद्विमान हैं, प्रयत्नशील भी है और सरकार की भी एक आइडियालाजी है। तो उस आईडियालाजी के मुताबिक, उस दर्शन के मुताबिक कम से कम दो चीजें तो इस देश की जनता को दे दें- एक पानी और दूसरा बिजली। ये दो दे दें तो हम समझेंगे कि यह सरकार का दर्शन सही मायनों में जनता का दर्शन है।, फेल करेगा तो हम समझेंगे यह दर्शन जनता के हक में नहीं है, उसके पक्ष में नहीं है। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात को समाप्त करता हूं।

†شری جلال الدین انصاری "بہار": اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودے، آج ہمارا دیش آزادی کی پچاسویں ورش گانٹھ منارہا ہے، منانی بھی چاہئے اس سے خوشی کی بات دیش واسیوں کے لئے اورکوئی ہو نہیں سکتی ہے۔ لیکن اس موقع پر آج دو مہتو پورن اور خاص چیزوں کے لئے ہم چنتا ویکت کر رہے ہیں کہ آزادی کے پچاس سال بعد بھی اپنے دیش کی جنتاکو پینے کا پانی مہیا نہیں کراسکے اور نہ بجلی ہی ان کو دے پائے۔ اسلئے سوال کسی دل کا نہیں ہے، یہ راشٹریہ سوال ہے اور سرکارکسی بھی رہی ہو اور آج بھی ہے، کبھی بھی اس سوال پر لوگوں نے گمبھیرتا سے وچار نہیں کیا۔ ہم آشاکرتے ہیں کہ یہ جو نئی سرکارآئی ہے اس کو گمبھیرتا سے لیگی اور اس سمسیا کا صحیح سمادھان نکالے گی۔ اس لئے کہ ان کا ایک ایجنڈا ہے "سمادھان" تو پینے کے پانی سمادھان اوربجلی کا تو سنکٹ ہے، اس کا بھی سمادھان کریگی توہم ان کو سہیوگ کرنے کے لئے ی یورے تیار ہیں۔ سوال کسی دل وشیش کا نہیں ہے لیکن دربھاگیہ کی بات یہ رہی ہے کہ پچاس سال میں ان گمبھیر اور مہتوپورن سمسیاؤں کا حل نہیں نکالا جا سکا ہے۔

دیش کے گرامین اکشتروں میں غریب ایک تہائی آبادی کو ابھی بھی پے جل کی سویدھا نہیں ہے اور جہاں سویدھا ہے بھی تو آنشک سویدھا ہے، پارشیئل فیسیلٹی ہے، پوری سویدھا ان کو نہیں دی گئی ہے۔ سرکار کی یوجنا کی کمزوری کہا ہے، یہ کہ ۹۸-۱۹۹۷ اور ۹۹-۱۹۹۸میں جو انھوں نے پے جل کے لئے راشی آبنٹٹ کی ہے اس میں یہ ہوگا کہ ہینڈ پمپ کو لگا دینا۔ لیکن کبھی بھی اس بات کی سمیکشا نہیں کی گئی ہے، کہ پچھلے دنوں جو ہینڈ پمپ لگائے گئے ، وہ کس حالت میں ہے۔ میں دعوے کے ساتھ کہنا چاہتا ہوں اس سدن میں اور منتری مہودے سے کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ آپ کے مادھیم سے اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودے،

†[]Transliteration in Aribic Script.

کہئے، ڈراپیوگ کہئے، وہ بھی ہوتا ہے۔ یا ایسی جگہ پر گاڑ دیا جاتا ہے جہاں سالٹی واٹر ہوتا ہے، جس کے پینے سے انکو بیماری ہو جاتی ہے، کہاں پر گاڑا جائے تاکہ اس سے سیف واٹر ملتا رہے۔ آٹھویں یوجنا میں بھی جو لکشے رکھا گیا تھا وہ بھی پورا نہیں ہو سکتا ہے۔ نویں پنچ ورشیہ یوجنا میں جو لکشے ہے، قریب قریب سرکار کا انومان ہے کہ ۲۰۰۰ تک پے جل کی سمسیا کا سمادھان کریں۔ اگر اسی طرح یوجنائیں چلتی رہیں اور کوئی صحیح راشٹریہ نیتی بنائی گئی، جوگڑبڑیاں ہیں انکو نہیں دیکھا گیا تو ۲۰۰۰ تک تو کیا ۲۰۰۵ یا ۲۰۱۰ تک بھی اس دیش کی جنتا کو پے جل مہیا نہیں کرا سکتے ہیں۔ اس لئے ہم سرکار سے چاہیں گے کہ یہ جو ہماری سمسیا ہے، اس سمسیا کا صحیح طریقے سے آپ ندان نکالیں۔

دوسری بات یہ ہے کہ جو ہمارے نئے طریقے ہیں وہ تو چلیں، ان کو اور بھی اچھا بنایئے لیکن پرانے جو ہمارے پرمپراگت واٹر اسٹور کرنے کے طریقے تھے، ان کو قریب قریب سماپت کر دیا گیا ہے۔ ادھیکانش علاقوں میں جیسے کہ ابھی لکھاوت جی بول رہے تھے، انھوں نے پورا ادھین کہ اسکی جانچ پورے دیش میں کرالی جائے کہ جو بھی "چاپاکل" اور اسٹینڈ پمپ گاڑے گئے ہیں وہ کام کرتے ہیں یا نہیں۔ وہ کام اس لئے نہیں کر رہے ہیں کیونکہ انکی مرمت کا کوئی انتظام نہیں ہے، اور نہ ہی ان کی مینٹینینس کی ویوستھا ہے۔ وہ کاغز پر ہیں کہ پی۔ایچ۔ڈی۔ راجیہ سرکار اپنی کرتی ہیں لیکن کچھ راجیہ ایسے بھی ہونگے کہ جو کچھ نہیں کرتے ہونگے ایسے راجیہ کو میں بدھائی دینا چاہتا ہوں لیکن عام طور پر وہ پرانے 'چاپاکل' گاڑ دئے جاتے ہیں وہ بگڑ جاتے ہیں۔ ان کی مرمت اور رکھ رکھاؤ کی کوئی بات نہیں ہوتی ، اور سرکاری رپورٹ میں ہے کہ اتنے پمپ کام کر رہے ہیں۔ اور لوگوں کو پینے کا پانی مل رہا ہے۔ یہ صحیح تتھ تتھ نہیں ہے، تتھ کچھ دوسرا ہے۔ اس لئے اس پر بھی آپ کو وچار کرنا چاہئے ہمارا تو یہ سجھاؤ ہوگا کہ قریب دیش کی ایک تہائی آبادی جو گرامین اکشتروں میں ہے اس کے لئے پے جل ہے ہی نہیں، او رجو ہینڈ پمپ اور اسٹینڈ پمپ گاڑے جاتے ہیں ان کو اتنی دور گاڑ دیا جاتا ہے جہاں پر لوگ اسکا استعمال نہیں کر پاتے ہیں طرح طرح سے اسکا مسیوز

طرقوں سے بڑھایا جائے۔ اس کے لئے ہماری ایک راشٹریہ نیتی ہونی چاہئے۔ ہمیں ابھی تک اس میں پوری کا میابی نہیں مل پائی ہے۔ کچھ ہمارے پرانے پلانٹ راجیوں میں ہیں جو کام نہیں کر رہے ہیں کچھ بیٹھ گئے ہیں، نان ورکنگ ہیں۔ راجیہ سرکاریں یا کیندریہ سرکار صحیح سمے پر راشی دے کر انکو ماڈرنائز کریں او رچلانا چاہئے لیکن وہ نہیں ہوپارہا ہے۔ وبھن راجیوں میں جوبجلی کی پری یوجنائیں ہیں، چاہے کیندریہ سرکار کی ہوں یا راجیہ سرکار کی ہوں، ان کو پورا کرنے کے لئے ایک ٹائم باؤنڈ یوجنا ہونا چاہئے اور ایک نشچت اودھی کے انودان کو پیدا کیا جانا چاہئے اگر یہ نہیں کریں گے تو نشچت طور پر کرشی کی جو بات ہو رہی ہے، کسانوں کو لابھ دینے کی جو بات ہو رہی ہے، کرشی کا اتپادن بڑھانے کی آوشیکتا ہے بجلی کا جو ٹراسمیشن ہے اس میں جو گڑ بڑیاں ہیں اس کوٹھیک کرنے کی ضرورت ہے سب سے بڑی گڑ بڑی ڈسٹری بیوشن میں، آپورتی میں ہو رہی ہے۔ ابھی دہلی کوہی لے لیجئے۔ ابھی سالوے جی اور دوسرے ساتھیوں نے چرچا کی کہ راجیہ بجلی بورڈ کی حیثیت رکھتا ہے۔ وہ دیوالیہ ہے۔ کہیں کیا ہے، پورے دیش کے ہر راجیہ میں پوکھر ہوتے تھے، تالاب ہوتے تھے اور بڑے بڑے جلا شے بھی ہوتے تھے جنکو مینٹین کر کے رکھا جاتا تھا۔ جب بارش ہوتی تھی ان کے پانی کا استعمال ہوتا تھا اور جانوروں کو بھی پانی ملتا تھا اورکرشی کے لئے بھی استعمال ہوتا تھا لیکن آپ دیکھیں گے کہ پرانے جل کے جو سروت تھے، وہ ادھیکانش سبھی راجیوں میں سماپت ہوگئے ہیں۔ ہم آج انڈر گراؤنڈ جانا چاہتے ہیں لیکن میرا سجھاؤ یہ ہے کہ جہاں آدھونک پے جل ویوستھا کو بڑھانے کی ضرورت ہے، پرمپراگت جو پانی ستگرہ کرنے کی ہماری چیزیں ہیں، ان کو بھی ہمیں رکھنا چاہئے تبھی ہم بڑے پیمانے پر کرشی کے شیتر میں بھی استعمال کرسکتے ہیں اور اسکو لابھ مل سکتا ہے۔

جہاں تک بجلی کا سوال ہے، اگر اس دیش کو وکاس کرنا ہے اور وکاس کرنا ہی ہے تو بجلی کے بغیر نہ کرشی کا وکاس ہو سکتا ہے اور نہ ادھیوگوں کا وکاس ہو سکتا ہے۔ کوئی بھی دیش اگر صحیح معنوں میں اپنا چہومکھی وکاس کرنا چاہتا ہے تو ادھیوگ اور کرشی کے وکاس کے لئے آوشیک ہے کہ بجلی کا اتپادن وبھن

وہاں کی حالت ابھی تک سدھاری نہیں ہے۔ ہرروز آپ اخباروں میں پڑھئے اور دیکھئے کیا حالت ہے۔ جب بجلی سپلائی نہیں تو اس کے چلتے واٹر کی بھی سپلائی بند ہے۔ میں تو یہاں تک کہتا ہوں کہ ہم لوگ جو نارتھ اوینیو میں رہتے ہیں یہاں دن میں دوتین بار بجلی دس منٹ، بیس منٹ، آدھے گھنٹے کے لئے آتی اور جاتی رہتی ہے۔ تو جو وی آئی پی کہئے یا وی-وی-آئی- پی- کیا ہے معلوم نہیں ایسی جگہوں میں جاتی ہے۔ اب راشٹرپتی جی کے یہاں جاتی ہے کہ نہیں معلوم نہیں، ان کے یہاں الگ ویوستھا ہوگی۔ لیکن نارتھ اوینیو میں تو کبھی کبھی جاتی ہے ...وقت کی گھنٹی...

اپ سبھا ادھیکش "شری سناتن بیسی": ٹائم ہوگیا آپ کا۔

شری جلال الدین انصاری: تو ہم یہ سجھاؤ دینا چاہتے ہیں کہ چاہے وہ دکشنی دہلی ساکیت ہو، آر۔کے۔پورم ہو یا بہت سارے دہلی کے دوسرے اکشیتر ہوں وہاں ویاپک سنکٹ ہے۔ یہ راشٹرویاپی سنکٹ ہے اس کو حل کریں۔ ہمارے منتری جی نے یہی لوکل پریاس بھی کئے ہیں۔ ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ ان دونوں سوالوں کو کہیں تو راجیہ سرکار جو انسے بجلی لیتی ہے ان کے پیسے نہیں دیتی ہے۔ وشو بینک سے کہیں فائننس ہوئے ہیں تو اسی فائننس سے چل رہے ہیں۔ بجلی چوری وغیرہ کی بات تو آچکی ہے اس میں ہم زیادہ نہیں جانا چاہتے ہیں۔ میرا سجھاؤ ہے کہ جو راجیہ بجلی بورڈس ہیں ان کو پنرگھٹت کرنے کی ضرورت ہے ان کو سوائتتا تہ ونامی بھی ملنی چاہئے۔ ان کو سادھن بھی ملنے چاہئے، ریسورسیز بھی ملنے چاہئیں، تبھی وہ صحیح طریقہ سے ان چیزوں کی طرف بڑھ سکتے ہیں نہیں تو بجلی میں سدھار کرنے کی حالت میں الیکٹری سٹی بورڈس نہیں ہیں۔

دہلی میں ہمارے پاور منسٹر نے کوشش کی ، میٹنگ بلائی، دہلی ودیوت بورڈ کی ادھیکاری خود اس میں رہے، سشما سوراج بھی رہیں۔ پہلے دس پرسینٹ تھا پھر دس سے بڑھاکر پچیس پرسینٹ کر دینا، پھر بھی یہاں کی ڈسٹری بیوشن کی حالت دہلی شہر میں سدھری نہیں ہے۔ ہمارے ماننیہ منتری جی کے پریاس کے باوجود بھی دہلی چاہے وہ دکشنی دہلی ہو، اتر دہلی ہو، پچھمی دہلی ہو، پوربی دہلی ہو،

سے بنائے، اس کو لاگو کر کے جنتا کو مہیا کرائے۔ اس میں ہم لوگوں کا سہیوگ آپ کا ملیگا اس میں کہیں دو رائے نہیں ہے۔ ہم سمجھتے ہیں کہ یہ منتری جی کافی انوبھوی، بدھیمان ہیں، پریتن شیل بھی ہیں، اور سرکار کی بھی ایک آئڈیالوجی ہے، تو اس آئڈیا لوجی کے مطابق ، اس درشن کے مطابق کم سے کم دو چیزیں تو اس دیش کی جنتا کو دیدیں ایک پانی او ردوسری بجلی، یہ دودیدیں تو ہم سمجھیں گے کہ سرکار کا یہ درشن صحیح معنوں میں جنتا کا درشن ہے۔ فیل کریگا تو ہم سمجھیں گے یہ درشن جنتا کے حق میں نہیں ہے، اس کے پکش میں نہیں ہے۔

انھیں سبدوں کے ساتھ میں اپنی بات کو ختم کرتا ہوں۔

"ختم شد"

SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA (Uttar Pradesh): The two subjects which we are discussing are probably the most important problems which this country is facing. As far as power situation in India is concerned, basically there are three problems. The first one is the inability of the Government to take decisions. At the moment there is surplus of capacity all over the world to produce hardware and costs have come down. In fact, from experience I can say that the smaller units between one and five megawatts which used to cost over a crore and a half per megawatt, can be installed for 50 lakhs a megawatts. The generation cost of these units is less than three rupees, and the

صحیح ڈھنگ سے کیا جائے ...وقت کی گھنٹی...

ایک بات اور کہکر میں ختم کرتا ہوں، سرکار کی رپورٹ کے مطابق ۸۶ فیصد گاؤں میں بجلی کرن کر دیا گیا ہے۔ پول گڑ گئے ہیں، لائن بھی لگ گئی ہے، لیکن آپ دیکھیں گے کہ بہت جگہ گاؤں میں پول بھی نہیں ہیں، تار بھی نہیں ہیں۔ او راس لئے بجلی جانے کا سوال ہی نہیں ہے۔ سچائی یہ بھی ہے ایک بار لگ گئے ختم ہو گیا۔ پھر اسکو کون دیکھنے والا ہے۔ وہ رپورٹ تو ہے کہ کتنے لگ گئے۔ لیکن ملتی ہے کہ نہیں، پتہ نہیں۔ ایک تو یہ بھی ہے کہ الگ ۔الگ راجیوں کی الگ استھتی ہے۔ سب جگہ ایک سی نہیں ہے۔ لیکن بہار راجیہ کی تو وہی استھتی ہے،میں اس راجیہ کا رہنے والا ہوں، بجلی گئی تارکاٹ دیا، پول اکھڑ گئے، کوئی دیکھنے والا نہیں ہے۔ لیکن رپورٹ میں تو ہے کہ اتنے گاؤ میں الیکٹر فکیشن ہو گیا اور رپورٹ رہے گی آگے تک۔ لیکن 'وستواستھتی ' ویوہار میں سچائی مختلف ہے تو یہ سمسیا جٹل ہے اور ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ سرکار واٹر پالیسی، ایز جی پالیسی، پاور پالیسی کو ٹھیک

Government charges between four and five. One is unable to understand why the Government is not able to take a decision in expanding the power capacity, specially when enough resources arc also available. There are investors both Indian and overseas, but somehow the Govcrn-. mem lacks the ability to take quick decisions.

The second problems, which is a very .crucial problem, is that of gross misman-agement of this sector, corruption in this sector. Transmission and distribution losses happen because of the above two factors. I would like to given an example of UP. In fact, through you, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that I was looking tor a parellel for U.P. and now I find that Delhi is a close second. Uttar Pradesh has an installed capacity of 6,200 megawatts and generates no more than 1900 megawatts. And it has very high transmission and distribution losses. I can say with some personal experience, because I involved myself in trying to solve this problems, in fact, I involved one of the leading private companies which are very efficiently managed, I convinced them to come and give free advice to the Government of Uttar Pradesh. The Government's representatives, Secretaries and the Chairman of the Board etc. told us that they did not have any money to repair the power generating units. They needed about Rs. 800 crores. But when we looked at their balance-sheet, we found that their receivables were over Rs. 3000 crores. These are problems that arc not new. Power is in a sellers market.' And when a product is in a sellers' market, you don't give unlimited credit. For instance, Sir, in Bombay, if you need one megawatt or two megawatts of power, they take in advance the average monthly billing. If you delay your bill by four days, they disconnect your power connection. It does not matter how important that industry is. Therefore, these problems do not happen .there. Yet, when we gave this advice to the Govern-ment of Uttar Pradesh and to their rep-'esentatives, it did not make any sense to them. I am very sorry to say that this organisation in Maharashtra which is headed by a former Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, wrote to me saying that they wanted to opt out because even for giving free advice, even for receiving that free advice, they were asked to give them some consideration. Therefore, they opted out. I have that letter. He is a very honourable, very senior, very respected man, Dr. Sethna. Here we- have two problems. One is of mismanagement. In India we have excellent units existing, whether it is in Bombay or somewhere else. I was reading in one of the newspapers that the Vizag installation has a power load factor of 91 per cent.

5 P.M.

Therefore, why don't we use them as consultants to some of these companies, to some of the SEBs, where generation is so poor? I don't believe the ICICI and the IDBI are the right organisations to advise these companies. What you need is technically competent people who have experienced these problems to come and give advice. I am aware of an utility in America which manages about 48,000 MW....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Mr. Malhoutra, would you please sit down?

SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: Why, Sir?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): I have to announce something. Hon. Members: I have to inform you that in the morning, it was decided in the Business Advisory Committee meeting that at 5 p.m., all the Special Mentions would be taken up. Therefore, it is for the House to decide.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, w have been requesting....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Mrs. Jayanthi Natarajan, please sit down. Let us go one by one. Shri Pranab Mukherjee had raised his hand already.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a point which, I think, you will decide, after taking the sense of the House.

Today being the last working day, practically, we have to transact Legislative Business also. The Electricity Regulatory Commissions Bill is to be taken up, as it was decided in the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee. Two-and-a-half hours have been allotted foi this. A Supplementary List of Business is also being circulated to the Members.

For this discussion, we gave two-and-a-half hours. We have already taken three hours. The Minister is yet to give his reply to the discussion. Special Mentions are also there.

Therefore, my most respectful submission to you, and through you, to my colleagues, would be this. There is a i commonality between this discussion and the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Bill which we are going to discuss. Some of the Members who still are to make their contribution to this discussion could participate in the discussion on the Bill and make their contribution. I would suggest that we could conclude this discussion under rule 176, which is presently going on, and let the Minister give his reply. Thereafter, we can take up the Special Mentions. After that, we can take up the Legislative Business. If you agree and if my other colleagues agree, we can do it that way.

SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA : Sir, I will conclude my speech within two-three minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): One minute, Malhoutraji. Shrimati Jayanthi Natarajan, please.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamilnadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, for the last two-three days, all the lady Members, cutting across party lines, have been trying to raise the issue relating to a very serious discrimination in the retirement age of airhostesses. It is a very serious Constitutional issue relating to women. There are two-three other issues also, important issues, relating to women, which we have been wanting to take up. Due to lack of time, we were unable to take it up.

Sir, for the last two-three days, we have been requesting, all of us have been requesting, the hon. Chairman. We have been approaching the hon. Chairman. This issue was to be taken up yesterday. But then, because something else came up yesterday, the hon. Chairman said that we could raise it today as the first item. Unfortunately, however, this decision was taken, which we were unhappy with. It was decided that the Special Mentions would be taken up at 5 p.m., because of the Finance Minister's reply. Despite our objections, it was decided that way. Therefore, we gave in. At that time, I made a specific request to the hon. Chairman that our issue relating to the retirement age of airhostesses should be taken up. All of us came here just to draw the attention of the House to this. It should be taken up now. I specifically said that this discussion should be kept pending. I said that at that time, Members should not get up and say that the Special Mentions could be taken up later.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I would say, with great respect, this would be a very unfair treatment to us. Therefore, Sir, I am sure, my colleagues would agree with' me that this important issue relating to the retirement age of airhostesses should be taken up now because all of us have been waiting for the last three days. There are other important issues also.

प्रो0 विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दिल्ली): महोदय, इस व्यवस्था को आप किसी भी तरह से कर दीजिए, इस पर आपत्ति नहीं है। परन्तु, एक बात अभी प्रणब जी ने कही है कि य अह बिजली और पानी की कमी की बहस चल रही है और रेगुलेटरी बिल हमारे सामने है। है। इसमें इन दोनों की बहस अगर इकट्ठी हो जाए एक तरह से , जैसे कुछ स्पीकर इसमें रह गए हैं पहले वाले पर बोलने वाले हैं, दूसरे वाले पर भी बोलेंगे, तो दोनों की बहस एक साथ हो जाए। यह नहीं होना चाहिए कि ढाई घंटे

उसके लिए और उसके बाद दूसरी बहस होगी, फिर एक घंटार इसमें भी बाकी है, एक घंटा उसमें भी लगेगा, इस तरह से तो रात को 10,11,12 बज जाएंगे। इसकी बजाय जो डिसकशन है, इसमें से मान लीजिए कुछ स्पीकर जो डिसकशन है, इसमें से मान लीजिए कुछ स्पीकर बाकी हों, तो उसके साथ उसमें एक मेंडेट कर लीजिए उन स्पीकर्स को। ....(व्यवधान).... मैंने यह नहीं कहा, स्पेशल, मैंशन जरूर होना चाहिए, आज वह कमिटेड है। ....(व्यवधान)...., 5.00 बजे कर लीजिए, मुझे उस पर कोई ऑब्जेक्शन नहीं है। वे तो कहते थे कि 15 मिनट में इसे खत्म करके और 10 मिनट में जवाब देकर इसको समाप्त कर सकते है। तो 10-15 मिनट में कोई लम्बा-चौड़ा फर्क नहीं पड़ता, परन्तु अगर आज ज़िद पर हैं तो उसको पहले कर लीजिए लेकिन य नहीं हो कि वही स्पीकर पहले इस पर बोलें फिर वही स्पीकर उस पर बोलें और यही चलता रहे। इलेक्ट्रिसिटी का ही मामला है इसलिए डिस्कशन को ज्वाइंट कर लिया जाए ताकि यह जल्दी से जल्दी खत्म हो जाए।

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARA-JAN: Sir, please let me speak.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Madam, just a minute. You have already made your point.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARA-JAN: Sir, I am trying to say, if you do not mind, it is not *zid.* Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra is talking of *zid.* Nobody is standing on that. If we had stood on *zid,* we would have insisted on it in the morning.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): I know I was there.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARA-JAN: Please let me say something.

Yesterday itself I was supposed to leave the city. It is only because of this that I have stayed back. My flight is at 6-30 p.m. So, we should be allowed to take it up.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: It has to be taken up now.

THE MINISTER OF POWER CSHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, if I may be permitted to speak, I do believe that the lady members have been pressing for this issue for quite some time. I think they should be given the first opportunity. Let them make the Special Mention. We will take the suggestion of Pranabda. The moment they finish the Special Mention, we will close the discussion on this. I will give my reply. We can take up the Electricity Bill.

SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: Sir, may I be allowed to speak?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Yes, you will be allowed to speak.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, will you allow me to speak?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): You will also be allowed to speak.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: It is not a question of allowing me to speak.

I am a little pained to see this about the bill which we are going to discuss, the Bill on the Electricity Regulatory Commission. A lot of blaring publicity was being given to it as a reformative Bill for the electricity sector. Can you take it so lightly and say that we will combine it with this? ...*(Interruptions)*.. This is a serious thing.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): That is a separate thing.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: It should be taken seriously. ...*(Interruptions)*..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Just a minute. We have not yet concluded the Short Duration Discussion. Other Members are there still to speak. In the Committee meeting we have decided that Special Mentions would be taken at five o'clock. Earlier the Finance Minister was to give his reply. So, there was urgency for that. So, this was kept at five o'clock.

Now, let us take up Special Mentions.

SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: Let me finish this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): There are other persons also who will speak on this. You wait for some time.

SHRI MD. SALIM: She has to catch a plane.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: How long will he take?

SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: Give me three minutes.

SHRI MD. SALIM: So, after he finishes we' can lane up special Mentions.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: He is taking only three minutes. I don't mind waiting.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): That is all.

SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: There is a utility in the United States, which generates 48,000 MW of power, and the average age of the plant is over 30 hours. By better maintenance, by good maintenance and by innovative replacement of parts, they are able to generate over 90 per cent of the load capacity. Our plants are old, but they are not that old. It is only the lack of maintenance which has led to the situation that we are facing in this country. These consultants are available in Bombay. I think using them will be in the interest of the country. I think the hon. Minister and the Government will lack moral authority unless they are able to improve the situation in Delhi. I agree it is a State subject. But unless they are able to show that they are able to manage better in Delhi, I think the States are not going to listen to them.

Because of shortage of time I would just like to say something on this issue of drastic steps. Indonesia is a sick man of South-East Asiu. We know that. They have had problems of corruption. They have had all kinds of problems. I know that about ten years ago their customs leakage was such that they were not getting much revenue on account of customs duty. So, they asked their customs officers to stay at home. They got a whole new team of people from abroad, put them at various ports and their collections went up seven times. If Indonesia can take such steps, why can't we just say that we are going to try this and that to correct the whole thing. Unless we are able to do quickly, we are not going anywhere. The new plants will take about three to four years. Therefore, improvemen' in the management and reduction of thefts and improvement in the distribution can be done more quickly.

Sir, I wanted to speak on the subject of water, but in view of the paucity of time, I won't say anything more.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Now, we go over to-Special Mentions. Shrimati Jayanthi Natarajan.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Discrimination against Air Hostesses

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would like to thank you and the House for allowing me to take up this important issue. It is a very serious issue. Air Hostesses, who are working for Air India, are subjected to the most severe discrimination, which no right-thinking citizen in any civilised society will allow to take place. For some time, there was a rule that the Air Hostesses, who reach the age of 40 years were immediately retired for some archaic notion, which I do not think would be even appropriate to mention in the House. For example, it was felt their usefulness was at an end when they reached the age of 40 years. There is a long history. This was challenged in the court and was agitated at several fora. Several Members of Parliament approached various Prime Ministers. Finally it was agreed that the letter and spirit of the Constitution,

which does not permit discrimination on the basis of sex, should prevail and they were allowed to continue.

Now, there is a very peculiar situation for Air Hostesses working in Air India. When they reach the age of 50 years, they are grounded. This is not as innocent as it sounds. The moment they are grounded, they lose 75 per cent of their emoluments, which are given as 'flying allowances'. Unless they fly, these allowances will not be available to them. They are grounded and are asked to do the ground work. Until they retire, they are not allowed to fly again. The pernicious nature of this requirement arises, because this does not apply to men. The male flight attendants, who are also wot king for Air India are allowed to continue until they are 58. Now, it has been raised to 60 years. Secondly, a species theory is advanced that women suffer from some health problem after 50 years. Nothing could be more ridiculous than this, because these women are forced to undergo very stringent annual medical check-up, which again, men are not forced to undergo. Sir, we should be ashamed to be members of a society, which treats women in a cavalier fashion at such a high level and not do anything about it. After the issue was agitated several times, the restriction on the air Hostesses, who work for the Indian Airlines were removed and they are allowed to fly until they are 58 or 60 years. But, as far as the Air Hostesses employed with Air India are concerned, they are still grounded. Some articles have appeared in the newspapers, which my colleague would like to refer to. They have made very, very uncharitable comparisons between the Air Hostesses, who are above 50 years and those who are less than 50 years saying that it is only the younger ones, who are agile and they cannot lift the suit cases and put them abroad, as if the Air Hostesses are going to do it. It is also said that the Air Hostesses who fly for other countries, for foreign Airlines are more attractive and well-maintained than the Indian Air Hostesses. This is very, very unfortunate. 1 was agitated over this matter even while we were in the Government. I may share this information with the House with a full sense of responsbility because I would like my colleagues to know what has happened. These representations were made to me by the Air Hostesses who were working for Air India. As the Minister for Civil Aviation I had passed an order that this discrimination was unconstitutional and discriminatory. Along with this, I had quoted a memo in which the Air Hostesses of the Indian Airlines were allowed to continue flying until they were 58 years of age, now 60. I directed in the first week of February that within ten days orders should be passed to issue the same guideline and the same rule in relation to the Air Hostesses working for Air India. Even now it has not been done. It appears that somewhere these papers were lost. I don't understand who is preventing this from being implemented. There is a powerful lobby, a chauvinistic uncivilised lobby that is preventing this.

Sir, finally, the last work I would like to say is that to assume that a woman's life has come to an end when she is 50 years of age is an act of total cruelty both psychologically and physically. If one says that these women have family responsibilities and, therefore, they cannot attend to flying duties, nothing could be more discriminatory or more ridiculous than that because we can assume that men have the same duty. In fact, women at 50 have less responsibility because their children will be grown up. Most of them put in 30 or 35 years of service for the Airlines. There could be nothing more cruel than to tell somebody this who has put in 20 or 25 or 30 years of service for an Airline. When she reaches the age of 50, to say that her usefulness has a certain end and now she has to go home is cot correct. This is not the way we treat productive citizens of our society.

I call upon the Government to immediately rectify this position to ensure

that directions are given so that Air Hostesses of Air India continue to fly as Air Hostesses until hey are 58, just like the Air Hostesses who work for Indian Airlines and just like the men in Air India. This is the only way the: we can do justice to the 50 per cent of 'his society. Thank you very much.

PROF. SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY (West Bengal,. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by my colleague, Shrimati Jayanthi Natarajan. Air India has refused to increase the retirement age of Air Hostesses from 58 to 60. The Preamble guarantees equal status and opportunity to all. Air India's rule indicates inferior status tor women. It derries equal career opportunity to them. Moreover, it exhibits a sexist attitude. So far as women are concerned, the youth and young age are more important than efficiency and experience. This is the same age-old attitudc. Women are to be attractive, not necessarily efficient, to be charming, not necessarily intelligent, to be smart, but feminine. She is not to show independence of spirit or action. This attitude must change.

I, therefore, strongly call upon the Government of India to issue directives to Air India to dispense with all discriminatory rules agaist women. Thank vou.

श्रीमती चन्द्रकला पाण्डेय (पश्चिम बंगाल): धन्यवाद उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरी कुलिंग श्रीमती जयन्ती नटराजन ने वो मुद्दा उठाया है तथा जब वह मंत्री थी तब इस मुद्दे पर उन्होंने काफी जोर भी दिया था। लेकिन अब्तक इस पर कोई गौर नहीं किया गया है । मैं सबसे पहले उनसे अपने आपको सम्बद्व करना चाहूंगी और इस प्रकार की धारणा जो डबल स्टेंडर्ड फोलो किया जा रहा है सिव्रयों और पुरुषों के बारे में, उसको पूरी तरह दूर करते हुए उनके साथ न्याय किया जाए, न्यायसंगत व्यवहार किया जाए। मैं इन शब्दों के साथ आपको पुनः धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगी।

SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI (NOMINATED): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shrimati Jayanthi Natarajan. It is heartening to note that yesterday newspapers were full of reports about how girls have once again done better than boys in the 12th class CBSE examinations. This is not true only of Delhi, but the whole of India. The pass percentage for girls is 78.5 per cent whereas for boys it is 68.3 per cent. I am saying this here only to reiterate that girls when given an opportunity can prove to be equal to, if not better than, boys. The question is not of capability. The question is that of opportunity and this opportunity must not be denied to any citizen of this country according to gender, castes, religion or class. While we congratulate our young girls for their achievements, it is important to bring to the notice of this aflgust House, as my hon, colleague, Shrimati Jayanthi Natarajan, has done before me, that is, the cross discrimination that is being metea out to the air hostesses of Air Iadia. Male cabin crew members are allowed to fiy up to the age of 58 years, and now 60 years, according to the new directive of the Government. But as far as women are concerned, the moment they reach the age of 50 years, they are not allowed to fly. They are grounded because of which, as my colleague, Shrimati Jayanthi Natarajan, has pointed out, they lose 75 per Cent of their salary, after giving almost 28 years to 30 years to the airlines. This is so in spite of the fact that there is a directive from the Government in an order dated 16th October, 1989 which says that there must be no discrimination between men and women. So, as the air-hostesses have rightly pointed out, in a country whose Constitution is committed to gender equality, and whose stated objective is to bring its women citizens on par with men citizens, are we to understand that the Government of India's directive does not cover its own undertakings? The question here is not of a single instance of gender discrimination. The more vkal question is the reinforcement of the gender stereotype that regards women as inferior, less capable and

less worthy. Surely, this is not to be tolerated. I am going to refer to a newsitem which has appeared in one of the leading newspapers. The language used in that news-item is so offensive could be called shameful, and this is not offensive just to women but also to elderly citizens. I quote:

> "Nannies bumbling in on wheelchairs to take care of the Maharajah's guests? Air-hostesses moving on the aisle with a walking stick on one hand and a glass of water on the other for a thirsty passenger?"

I think it is reprehensible that something like this should be allowed to be stated, and as the air-hostesses themselves have pointed out this, is not even possible that this will happen because they are to undergo a strict medical check-up every year, which needless to say, men don't have to undergo. I heard a lot of officials from Air India and a lot of our friends saying that it is a question of passenger preferences and passengers prefer younger women. I beg to differ with that opinion. I have flown on many airlines-Swiss Air, Lufthansa and American airlines where I have been served by senior air-hostesses, and I have enjoyed being served by them because of their vast experience and the fact that there is a great deal of efficiency. People will fly on airlines not because there are younger women but because the bottom line has to be the efficiency of the airline, and if there are some passengers who prefer to have younger women, Sir, then this is the right time that we change the mindset of these passengers because the air-hostesses are there to do their duty as efficiently as men. The women air-hostesses are not there for passengers to feast their eyes upon. I think this is very, very important that we make this point very clear to them. That is why we would request the fiowernment to take a very serious note of this thing and change this anomaly. Women cannot be treated and must not be treated as if they are a commodity.

We use in protest against that. So, thai is why we say that if this country is to march into the 21st century with its head held high, it can do so only if our women are brought on par with men. And on a final note for my women friends over here, I would like to conclude with a *shair* of Kaifi Azmi Saheb's poem 'Aurat'.

> "जिंदगी जेहद में है सब के काबू में नहीं,
> उड़ने खुलने में है नकहत खमे गेस में नहीं,
> जन्नत एक और है जो मर्द के पहलू में नहीं,
> उसकी आवाज़ो रविश पर भी मचलना है मुझे,
> उठ मेरी जान मेरे साथ ही चलना है तुझे।"

तो साथ चलने के लिए हाज़रीन यह ज़रूरी है कि

कुमारी फ्रिडा टोपनो (उडीसा): सर, एयर होस्टैसिस के बारे में जो डिस्कशन चल रही है, उसमें जयंती नटराजन जी से मैं असोसिएट होना चाहती हूं। महोदय, एयर होस्टैस की उम्र जब पचास साल की हो जाती है, उसी समय रिटायरमेंट केलिए उन्को कहा जाता है, वह अच्छा नहीं है। करण यह है कि मेल और फीमेल एक समान है, वह सब काम बराबर का करते हैं। जो काम मेल कर सकते हैं वह फीमेल भी कर सकती हैं तो क्यों उनको 40-50 साल की ऎज होने के बाद ही ग्राउंडिड स्टाफ कर देते है जिसके कारण उनको 75 परसेंट ऎमोल्यूमेंट्स लूज़ करने पड़ते हैं? तो मैं चाहती हूं और डिमांड करती हूं कि जैसे मेल होस्टैस जो हैं , वह 58 से 60 साल एक की उम्र तक काम कर सकते हैं तो फीमेल एयर होस्टैसिज को भी यह सुविधा देनी चाहिए। मैं डिमांड करती हूं कि हमारी इस मांग को मानना चाहिए और जितने हम लोगों के सांसद भाई हैं, उन सबको इस संबंध में एकमत होना चाहिए और लेडीज़ होस्टैसिस को भी 58 से 60 साल तक की ऎज तक काम करने का मौका देना चाहिए। धन्यवाद।

कुमारि सरोज खापड़ें (महाराष्ट्र): सर, एयर इंडिया की एयर होस्टैसिस की डिमांड बहुत दिनों से पैंडिंग भी और जैसा की जयंती नटराजन जी ने अपने स्पैशल मैंशन के उल्लेख के माध्यम से कहा कि जब वह खुद मिनिस्टर रहीं, उस वक्त भी उनके सामने एयर होस्टैसिस ने यह निवेदन भेजा था और उस निवेदन को देखने के बाद उन्होंने इस प्रकार के आदेश भी अपने मंत्रालयों को दिये थे। यह बात बिल्कुल सही है। मैं अपने आपको t

इससे संबद्व करना चाहूंगी क्योंकि अगर पुरुष कर्मचारियों को 58 से 60 साल तक हवाई जहाज में काम करने की मंजूरी दी जाती है तो महिलाओं को कों नहीं देनी चाहिए? सर, महिलाएं भी किसी से इतनी कम नहीं होती। अगर पचास साल तक वह काम कर सकती है तो 58-60 साल तक भी काम कर सक्ती हैं। इस तरह का डिसक्रीमीनेशन एयर होस्टैसिस के साथ होना बड़ा दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण मैंशन है, उससे संबंद्व करते हुए कहना चाहूंगी कि इस मांग पर भी सरकार को विचार करना चाहिए और एयर इंडिया की एयर होस्टैसिंस को पुरूष कर्मचारियों के साथ तथा इंडियन एयर लाइन्स की एयर होस्टैसिस के साथ उनको ट्रीट करना चाहिए ताकि जब तक उनकी उम्र 58 से 60 साल तक की हो, तब तक वह अपना काम कर सकें। धन्यवाद।

उपसभाध्य(श्री सनातन बिसि): मोहम्मद सलीम जी, आप बोलिए।

श्रीमती मालती शरमा (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मेरा भी इसमें नाम है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): आपका नाम भी आएगा।

श्रीमती मालती शर्मा: सर, मैं केवल दो मिनट लूंगी।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): मैं आपका नाम बोलूंगा।

श्रीमती मालती शर्मा: महोदय, मेरा निवेदन है कि भारतीय नारी चहुंमुखी प्रतिभा की धनी है, वह एक काम के साथ चार काम करती है। आज भी हम देखते हैं कि जो महिलाएं घरों में काम करती हैं, वह नौकरियां भी कर रही है लेकिन उसके साथ-साथ वह घर को भी संभालती है और बाहर ओ भी संभालती है। इसलिए मैं पुरजोर मांग करती हूं कि जयंती बहन ने जो विषय उठाया है, उसमें अंतरभेद नहीं होना चाहिए, रिटायरमेंट की ऊेज पर उनकें साथ जो यह अन्याय हो रहा है कि पचास साल के बाद उनका मैडीकल चैक अप हो, यह अन्याय नहीं होना चाहिए। हम सब बहनें मिलकर यह मांग करती हैं कि हमारी इस मांग को सरकार को स्वीकार करना चाहिए और उनके साथ अन्याय नहीं होना चाहिए।

श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा (बिहार): महोदय, भारत सरकार ने अपने सभी कर्मचारियों की, य अहां तक की फौज के लोगों की भी, कमांडर इन चीफ की और बाकी के लोगों की उम्र पांचवे पे कमीशन की रिकमैडेशंस के आधार पर 58 से 60 साल कर दी। सभी प्रबंधनों में काम करने वाले लोगों की भी उम्र बढ़ा दी। एयर इंडिया और इंडियन एयरलाइन्स भारत सरकार के उपक्रम हैं। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि इसमें ऊेयर होस्टैस के बारे में क्यों इस तरह की बातें की जाती है कि उनकी उम्र-पहले तो था कि पचास साल में फिटनैष टैस्ट हो और उनको उसमें बिठा दिया जाए उसके बाद आ रहा है कि 58 से 60 साल नहीं करेंगे तो यह अन्याय है और एक ही भारत सरकार में कई तरह का कानून नहीं चल सकता है। अगर लोग कोर्ट जाएं तो इनको झुकना पड़ेगा। इसलिए बिना कोर्ट गए ईमानदारी की बात यह होगी कि सारे देश के सामने बेनकाब हों कि यह जैंडर बायस गवर्नमेंट है, ऊेसा नहीं होना चाहिए।

अब इसके साथ कुछ अखबारों की कतरन भी हम लोगों ने देखी है। बहुत ही आपत्तिजनक बातें इनमें है। एक जगह तो किसी अखबार वाले ने कहा-

"First it was the mothers. Now the grandmothers will also be there."

What about grandfathers? At the age of 60 if men can work as cabin crew, why can't women do?

तो इसलिए बहुत ही गलत बात है। मैं इस बात पर जोर देकर कहूंगी जो बात जयन्ती जी ने उठाई है। SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Bihar): The passenger needs the care of a grandmother also.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA,: This is highly objectionable, Sir.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: You have said so. That is why I said. Sometimes, a passenger needs the care of a grandmother also.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: I am quoting from a newspaper. Maybe, sometimes, you are right. When small children are travelling they would like to have the care of a mother or a grandmother. Many times small kids travel alone, तो इसलिए मैं यह कहना चाहती हूं कि जो मांग है, सबको यूनिफोर्म रेट में उम्र की बढ़ोत्तरी की सुविधा न मिले और जो फाइनेशियल गेम है उसके जरिए कह सकते हैं वह भी सबको मिले, कोई डिस्क्रिमिनेशन नहीं होना चाहिए। With these words-1 associate myself with issue raised

by my sister Jayanthi Natarajan, other sisters and some brothers who are willing to support us.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): मिस्टर सलीम ।

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम (पश्चिमी बंगाल): यह सवाल डिस्क्रमिनेशन का है और जब डिस्क्रमिनेशन का सवाल आता है हमारे समाज में। यह मामला महिलाओं का मामला नहीं है। मल्होत्रा जी जैसे बहुत से लोग है जो इसका समर्थन भी कर सकते हैं।

†**شری محمد سلیم"پشچمی بنگال"**: یہ سوال ڈسکریمینیشن کا ہے اور جب ڈسکریمینیشن کا سوال آتا ہے ہمارے سماج میں۔ یہ معاملہ مہیلاؤں کا معاملہ نہیں ہے۔ ملہوترہ جی جیسے بہت سے لوگ ہیں جو اسکا سمرتھن بھی کر سکتے ہیں۔

प्रो0 विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दिल्ली): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं एक दूसरा सवाल करूंगा। अभी पांच बजे आपने स्पैशल मैन्शन्स शूरू किया, चार नाम थे इसमें बोलने वालों के। उन चारों के बोलने के बाद और भी बोल रहे है क्या हर एक टोपिक पर दस-दस, बीस-बीस आदमी बोलेंगे और हर एक को आद दस-दस बीस-बीस मिनिट बोलने देंगे?

SHRI MD. SALIM: He is a Member of Parliament. He knows it. We are supporting the issue cutting across party lines.

यहा सिर्फ महिलाओं का सवाल नहीं है। इस समाज में हजारों सालों से महिलाओं को इस तरह से देखते आया गया है और यह सिर्फ इंडियन एयरलाइन्स में एयर होस्टेज का मामला नहीं है। समाज के हर सूबे में, हर कोने में ऐसे मामले आते रहते है और एयर इंडिया में जो एयर होस्टेज है, they are educated and they are coming from high society.

उसकी एपरोज है, पार्लियामेंट में हम बात उठा सकते हैं। ऐसे रोजाना इनके साथ बरताव बरते जाते है जो हमारे तक यहां पहुंचते नहीं है। संविधान में लिखा है, कानून में लिखा है, आर्डर में लिखा है, राजनीतिक भाषण में है और मनसूबों में है लेकिन उसके बावजुद भी वह लागू नहीं होता है। इसलिए यह चर्चा यहां होनी चाहिए। यह बात मैं इसलिए यह बोल रहा हूं कि यह मामला एयर होस्टेज का है, एयर इंडिया को सुधारना ही पड़ेगा । इसलिए एविएशव मिनिस्टर को आकर इस सदन में बोलना पड़ेगा। मैं सरकार को दोष नहीं दे रहा हूं। यह तो चलता आ रहा है। 1989 में आर्डर पास हुआ है सिविल एविएशन मिनिस्ट्री का , the Indian Airlines implemented the Order within three days.

सकूर्लर हो गया, 19 अक्तूबर को निकल गया और एयर इंडिया ने आज तक वह आर्डर नहीं बनाया। अभी हमारे फोरमर मिनिस्टर कह रहे हैं कि उन्होंने भी आर्डर बनाए फरवरी में लेकिन वह मुम्बई हैडक्वार्टर तक नहीं पहुंचा। इनको इतने बड़े महाराजा नहीं होना चाहिए। ....(व्यवधान)..... हमें ध्यान देना चाहिए कि यह नाइन्साफी खत्म हो। मैडिकल चैक अप मदों व औरतों, दोनों के लिए होना चाहिए। यह मामला ऐसा नहीं है। यह जेंडर बायस है।

†**شری محمد سلیم**: یہاں صرف مہیلاؤں کا سوال نہیں ہے۔ اس سماج میں ہزاروں سالوں سے مہیلاؤں کو ایسے دیکھتے آیا گیا ہے اور یہ صرف انڈین ایئر لائن میں ایئر ہوسٹس کا معاملہ نہیں ہے۔ سماج کے ہرصوبہ میں۔ ہر کونے میں ایسے معاملے آتے رہتے ہیں اور ایئر انڈیا میں جو ایئر ہوسٹیج ہیں:

They are educated and they are coming from higher society.

†اسکی اپروچ ہے۔ پارلیمنٹ میں ہم بات اٹھا سکتے ہیں۔ ایسے روزانہ انکے ساتھ برتاؤ برتے جاتے ہیں جو ہمارے ایک تک یہاں پہنچتے نہیں ہیں۔ سمودھان

†[]Transilteration in Arabic Script

میں لکھا ہے۔قانون میں لکھا ہے آرڈر میں لکھا ہے راجنیتک بھاشا میں ہے اور منصوبوں میں ہے۔ لیکن اسکے باوجود بھی وہ لاگو نہیں ہوتا ہے۔ اسلئے یہ چرچہ یہاں ہونی چاہئے۔ یہ بات میں اسلئے بول رہا ہوں کہ یہ معاملہ ایئر ہوسٹیج کا ہے۔ ایئر انڈیا کو سدھارنا ہی پڑے گا۔ اسلئے ایوی ایشن منسٹر کو آکر اس سدن میں بولنا پڑے گا۔ میں سرکار کو دوش نہیں دے رہا ہوں۔ یہ تو چلتا آرہا ہے ۱۹۸۹ میں آرڈپاس ہوا ہے سیول ایوی ایشن منسٹر کا۔

سرکولر ہوگیا۔ ۱۹ اکتوبر کو نکل گیا اور ایئر انڈیا نے آج تک وہ آرڈر نہیں بنایا ابھی ہمارے فارمر منسٹر کہہ رہے ہیں کہ انھوں نے بھی آرڈر بنائے فروری میں لیکن وہ ممبئی ہیڈکوارٹر تک نہیں پہنچا۔ انکو اتنے بڑے مہاراج نہیں ہونا چاہئے ..."مداخلت"... ہمیں دھیان دینا چاہئے کہ یہ نا انصافی بند ہو۔ میڈیکل چیک اپ مردوں او رعورتوں دونوں کے لئے ہونا چاہئے۔ یہ معاملہ ایسا نہیں ہے۔ یہ جینڈر بائس ہے۔

प्रो0 विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, यह जो कहा जा रहा है, ठीक है कि जेंडर डिसक्रिमिनेशन नहीं होना चाहिये परन्तु आप यह कहें कि मिनिस्टर को आना चाहिये, इनके मिनिस्टर लगातार 50 साल से रहे हैं, इनकी पार्टी के भी रहे हैं इन्द्रजीत गुप्ता जी भी रहे है, कमला सिन्हा जी खुद मिनिस्टर थीं, यह नहीं हुआ है अब इनको अपनी गलती के लिए क्षमा मांगनी चाहिये क्योंकि इन्होंने नहीं किया अब किया जाए, यह रिक्वेस्ट करनी चाहिये।

श्रीमती वीणा वर्मा (मध्यप्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, ...(व्यवधान)....

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): हो गया।

श्रीमती वीणा वर्मा: जो जयन्ती नटराजन जी ने कहा, मैं उससे अपने आप को संबद्ध करती हूं। (व्यवधान) मैं एस्सोसियेट करना चाहती हूं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): वह तो हो गया। सैयद सिब्ते रज़ी।

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, I would like to assure the hon. Members who spoke on the issue of discrimination against women especially against Air Hostesses that I will definitely bring it to the notice of the Minister of Civil Aviation. We do understand their problems. As you are aware, even the former Minister for Civil Aviation, Shrimati Jayanthi Natarajan, passed orders which got implemented only with regard to the Indian Airlines. I will definitely bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister' of Civil Aviation. Constitutionally, it needs to be rectified. We will take steps.

Deprivation of Legal Payments to Unit Holders of U.T.I.

सैयत सिब्ते रज़ी (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, आपकी अनुमती से मैं जो साधारण डिपाजिटर्ज़ हैं जो अपनी हार्ड अंर्डसेविंग्स को नॉन बैंकिंग फाइनेंशियल कम्पनीज़ में जमा करते हैं, उनकी जो परेशानियां है, उसके बारे में हाऊस का और खास कर के फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब की त्वजो दिलाना चाहूंगा।

मान्यवर, आपको याद होगा कि पहले चिट फंड कम्पनियां बनती थी और उनमें हमारे साधारण इन्नोसेंट सिटीज़न अपना काफी पैसा जमा करते थे और यह वर्ग जो पैसा जमा करता है, निश्चित रूप से बहुत कम आमदनी के लोग होते है, बहुत से मॉडरेट इनकम के लोग होते है। जो जिन्दगी भर की उनकी सेंविंग होती है वह चिट फंड कम्पनी में जमा करा देते हैं। बहरहाल,

सरकार एक बार कानून लाई और इन चिट फंड कम्पनीज़ को कंट्रोल किया। उसके बाद नॉन बैंकि फाइनेंस कम्पनीज़ का सिलसिला शुरू हुआ। इन कम्पनीज़ में भी बहुत ज्यादा रेट ऑफ इंटेरेस्ट के लालच में साधारण डिपार्ज़िटर्ज पैसा जमा करने लगे। धीरे-धीरे यह कम्पनियां बहुत बडी तादाद में शहरों और यहां तक कि कस्बात में और छोटे शहरों में काम करने लगी। इस वक्त 60 हजार के करीब ऐसी कम्पनियां हैं जो इस देश के अन्दर काम कर रही हैं। लेकिन इन नॉन बैंकिंग फाइनेंशियल कम्पनीज़ की हालत भी चिट फंड कम्पनियां से ज्यादा बेहतर नहीं है। जिन लोगों का यह पैसा जमा करती है उनको ज्यादा इंटेरेस्ट का लालच देती हैं, यह कहती है कि आपका पैसा दो सल में चौगुना हो जाएगा, चार साल में 6 गुना हो जाएगा और इस लालच में लोग 50 हजार, 60 हजार या एक लाख जो भी बचाते हैं, जमा कर देते है । मेरे एक दोस्त ने मुझे बताया कि मुझे अपनी बेटी की शादी करनी थी इसलिए मैंने अपने प्रोविडेंट फंड से 40 हजार रुपया विदड्रा करके इस लालच में जमा करवा दिया कि दो साल के बाद मुझे दो लाख रुपया मिल जाएगा सारे का सारा पैसा जो उसने जमा किया था वह डूब गया और वह कम्पनी भी बंद हो कर गायब हो गई। अब उनके खिलाफ क्रिमिनल केस कायम करना, पुलिस में एफ0आई0आर0 दर्ज कराना, जनरली यह देखा जा रहा है कि यह पैसा किसि तरह से वापिस आता नहीं है, डूब जाता है। मैं फाइनेस मिनिस्टर साहब की इस ओर त्वज्जो दिलाना चाहता हूं कि इस सिलसिले में रिज़र्व बैंक आफ इण्डिया के चीफ जनरल मेनेजर जो डिपार्टमेंट आफ नॉन बैंकिग का सुपरविज़न करते हैं, उन्होंने एक स्टेंटमेंट दिया जिसमें उन्होंने कहा कि जो कम्पनीज़ ऐसा करेंगी उनके खिलाफ क्रिमिनल प्रोसीक्युशन चलाया जाएगा और उनको बन्द भी किया जा सकता है। यह तो नॉन बैंकिग फाइनेंस कम्पनीज़ के बारे में हुआ लेकिन आज जो सब से बड़ा मसला मैं आपके सामने पेश करने जा रहा हूं, वह यह है कि यूनिट ट्रस्ट ऑफ इण्डिया जो हमारी पार्लियामेंट के एक एक्ट के तहत बना हुआ फाइनेंशियल इंस्ट्रीट्यूशन है और उसमें कई सालों से एक तरह की बंगालिंग होती चली जा रही है। मोडस आपरेंडी उसमें यह है कि जब चेक्स फाइनल भुगतान के लिए तैयार होते है तो वे किसी न किसी तरह से पोस्ट आफिस के जरिए इंटरसेप्ट कर लिए जाते हैं। हमारे लखन ऊ के इलाके में यह काफी हुआ है। मैं आपको अपना परसनल एक्सपीरियंस भी बताऊंगा। हिंदुस्तान के दूसरे कोनों और सूबों में भी ऐसा हो रहा है कि पोस्ट आफिस से इंटरसेप्ट करने के बाद बैंक के माध्यम से एकाउंट्स खोल करके वह पैसा विदड्रा कर लिया जाता है। अभी मेरे साथ मान्यवर, यही वाक्या हुआ। मैं इसको एक इक्जाम्युल की सूरत में रखना चाहता हूं। मैंने 24 नवम्बर 1990 को एक मंथली इन्कम की स्कीम ली यू0टी0आई0 की और वह मैच्यौर हो गयी। इस बीच में मैंने उस पर ध्यान नहीं दिया। जब उसका समय समाप्त हो गया तो अप्रैल में मैंने उनसे कन्टैक्ट किया कि हमारे पैसे का क्या हुआ। तो उन्होंने अपने कागजात दिखाए और कागजात देखने के बाद हमको बताया कि यह 16 नवम्बर, 1997 को आपको 20,400/- रुपए का चेक बनाकर भेज दिया गया है। मैंने कहा कि मुझे तो कोई चेक बनाकर भेज दिया गया है। मैंने कहा कि मुझे तो कोई चेक बनाकर भेज दिया गया है। मैंने कहा कि मुझे तो कोई चेक नहीं भेजा है न मुझे कोई चेक मिला है। तो उसके बाद उन्होंने मुझे एक पत्र लिखा कि आपको पोस्ट आफि के जरिए फलां-फलां तारीख को पैसे भेजे गए हैं। मैंने जब और इंक्वायरी की तो उन्होंने मुझे चेक की एक फोटोस्टेट कापी दी उसमें मेरा नाम लिखा हुआ है, मेरे घर का लखन ऊ का पता लिखा हुआ है और सारा अमाउंट दिया हुआ है। इसमें लिखा है- एकाउंट पेई, नोट नेगोशिएबुल, नाट ट्रांफरेबल। अब इसका अर्थ क्या हुआ –इस चेक का? यहां दिल्ली में एक बैंक है, इन्दस सिन्ध बैंक प्रायवेट लिमिटेड, 12, बाराखंभा रोड़, इसके अंदर एकाउंट खोला गया और जिन लोगों ने एकाउंट खोला उनके नाम भी इस चेक के अंदर दिए गए है-

"Received payments as collecting agents. These will be credited on realisation", अब इस वी0एस0आर0एस0 लिमिटेड का क्या पूरा फार्म है यह तो मुझे मालूम नही । लेकिन यह जो रजिस्ट्रार है इन्होंने लिख रखा है "If this instrument is presented for clearing through a newly opened account, then kindly demand counterfoil and other documents to verify the correctness and identity of the person. In case of any doubt, please contract our branch office इसमें और शर्ते लिखी हुई है। मान्यवर, मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि सभी करीब-करीब पिछले एक साल के अंदर, जो मुझे सूचना दी गयी है, 350 केसेज हुए है जिनमें इस तरह से कोनाइवेंष के जरिए इंटरसेप्ट करके हुआ है। मैंने उनके मैनेजर को डिप्टी मैनेजर को बोला आप इसकी इंक्वायरी करिए, जांच करिए। हमें यह पता चलता है कि जिन केसेज में उनको शुबह होता है कि ये केसे परस्यू नहीं होंगे-क्योंकि पिछले कई सालों से मैंने इनका पेमेंट नहीं लिया था तो उनको इस तरह से कोनाइव करते है पोस्ट आफिस के जरिए, बैंक के जरिए, अपने रजिस्ट्रार के आफिस के जरिए, हो सकता है यू0टी0आई0 के स्तर

पर और भी इसमें इन्वाल्व हों। तो इस मैटर की पूरी जांच होनी चाहिए। मैं इसे एक टेस्ट केस की सूरत में आपके सामने पेश का रहा हूं।

यू0टी0आई0 इस देश का एक बहुत बड़ा फाइनेशियल इंस्टीट्यूशन है जो लगभग 80 हजार करोड़ रुपए से डील करता है और जिसमें 25 मिलियन साधारण जो हमारे डिपाजिटर्स है वे अपना पैसा जमा कराते हैं। उन्होंने मुझे पत्र में यह भी बताया कि उन्होंने पुलिस स्टेशन को इसकी रिपोर्ट लिखी है। मैं उद्धत करना चाहता हूं कि उनकी चिट्ठी जो 18 मई, 1998 को उन्होंने मुझे लिखी है, मेरा जो उनसे एक्सप्लेनेशन था और जो सूचना मैंने उनसे चाही थी उसके जवाब में-We have lodged complaints with the post office, concerned bank and the Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi. तीनों बातों पर मान्यवर आप गौर करें कि इन्होंने कंप्लेन लाज की पुलिस में, पोस्ट आफिस में और कन्सर्न्ड बैंक के खिलाफ रिजर्व बैंक आफ इंडिया को भी लिखा दिया-

An FIR has been lodged with the Connaught Place Police Station, New Delhi, on 11.4.98. The Police is yet to register the same. The matter has been brought to the knowledge of the Commissioner of Police, New Delhi, to expedite the investigation and help us to get the refund from the erring bank and concerned imposter who had deprived our valuable investors of their hard earned money, यह जो कुछ भी हुआ है, मेरे पर्सनल पर्सुएंस के बाद हुआ है। यह मि0सेठिया है, डिप्टी जनरल मैनेजर उन्होंने मुझे.....

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): कृपया समाप्त करें।

सैयद सिब्ते रज़ी: मान्यवर, मुझे कम्पलीट तो करने दीजिए। Sir, Please give me two more minutes. This is a very important matter. If the general investors are going to be affected and if this House is not going to take cognizance of this select case then I think wc will not be discharging the duties properly.

मान्यवर, मैं बताना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने यह कहा कि पुलिस को इन्होंने 11 अप्रैल, 98 को एफ0आई0आर0 लिख दी है और पुलिस उस पर कोई एक्शन नहीं ले रही है। अब एक मेम्बर ऑफ पार्लियामेंट स्वयं जाकर मिलता है, उस के बाद इतना एक्शन होता है तो मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि गोरखपुर, जयपुर, लखन ऊ या चेन्नई का रहने वाला साधारण डिपॉटिर नो यू0टी0आई0 का दफ्तर भी नहीं देख सकेगा। महोदय, 15 हजार, 20 हजार पता नहीं कितने ऐसे मामले है जो बहुत दिनों चल रहे है। इसलिए सरकार को इस तरफ तबजो देनी चाहिए। जैसाकि मैंने भी अभी कहा डिप्टी जनरल मैनेजर रिजर्व बैंक ऑफ इंडिया ने नॉन बैंकिंग फायनेंसियल कंपनीज के बारे में कहा है कि हम उन के खिलाफ प्रोसीक्यूशन लांएगे और साथ-साथ ऐसी कंपनीज को बंद करेंगे ।

मान्यवर, आपके माध्यम से एक को ऑपरेटिव बैंक का मैंने अभी तस्करा किया, इसी तरह बताया गया है कि 2-3 बैंक और है। एक इंडुस बैंक प्राइवेट लिमिटेड दिल्ली के अंदर है। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि रिजर्व बैंक इस के खिलाफ एक्शन क्यों नहीं लेने जा रहा है? मान्यवर, इस प्रकरण को पूरी गैर-जिम्मेदारी के तरीके से बैंक ने निपटाया है और निश्चित रूप से यह बैंकर जानते थे कि इस मामले में कहीं –न-कहीं कोई घपला है। इसलिए मैं इस केस को एक सलेक्ट केस की हैसियत से रखना चाहता हूं क्योंकि इस की वजह से बहुत सार इनवेस्टर्स के इंतरेस्ट्स रिस्क पर है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि यदि यू0टी0आई0 जैसी प्रिस्टीजिसयस इंस्टीट्यूशन इस ओर ध्यान नहीं दे रही है तो फिर इस का मतलब है कि यह जो प्राइवेट फायनेंसियल कंपनीज खुली है और वह कोई घपला करती है तो इन्हें भी कोई पूछने वाला नहीं और बैंक के जरिए जू फ्राड्स हो रहे हैं, उस तरफ भी कोई तवज्जो नहीं दी जा रही है.

मान्यवर, मेरा आप के माध्यम से फायनेंस मिनिस्टर और खास तौर से पूरी गवर्नमेंट से इस बात का अनुरोध है कि वह इस मामले की ओर तबज्जो देगी और कोई ऐसा रास्ता निकालेगी कि साधारण इनवेस्टर्स का हित पोषित हो और इस तरह से जो बंगोलिंग और फ्रॉड हो रहा है, उस को रोकने की कोशिशि की जाए।This is a very important matter. This relateds to the common man of the country.

मान्यवर, अगर सरकार ने इस ओर तबज्जो नहीं दी और एफ0आई0आर0 और पुलिस के जरिए मामले को निपटाने की कोशिश की टो इस तरह के फ्रॉड्स होते रहेंगे जिन्हें रोकने की बहुत आवश्यकता है।

आपने मुझे बोलने के लिए समय दिया, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

کمپنیاں بہت بڑی تعداد میں شہروں اور یہاں تک کہ قصبات میں اور چھوٹے شہروں میں کام کرنے لگیں۔ اس وقت ۶۰ ہزار کے قریب ایسی کمپنیاں ہیں جو اس دیش کے اندر کام کر رہی ہیں۔لیکن ان نان بینکنگ فائیننشیل کمپنیز کی حالت بھی چٹ فنڈ کمپنیوں سے زیادہ بہتر نہیں ہے۔ جن لوگوں کا یہ پیسہ جمع کرتی ہیں ان کو زیادہ انٹریسٹ کا لالچ دیتی ہیں، یہ کہتی ہیں کہ آپکا پیسہ دو سال میں چوگنا ہو جائیگا، چار سال میں چھ گنا ہو جائیگا۔ اور اس لالچ میں لوگ ۵۰ ہزار، ساٹھ ہزار یا ایک لاکھ جو بھی بچاتے ہیں، جمع کردیتے ہیں۔ میرے ایک دوست نے مجھے بتایا کہ مجھے اپنی بیٹی کی شادی کرنی تھی اس لئے میں نے اپنے پراویڈینٹ فنڈ سے ۴۰ ہزار روپیہ ودڈرا کرکے اس لالچ میں جمع کروا دیا کہ دوسال کے بعد مجھے دولاکھ روپیہ مل جائیگا سارے کا سارا پیسہ جو اس نے جمع کیا تھا وہ ڈوب گیا اور وہ کمپنی بھی بند ہو کر غائب ہوگئی۔ اب ان کے خلاف کرمنل کیس قائم کرنا، پولیس میں ایف۔آئی۔آر درج کرانا ، جنرلی یہ دیکھا جا رہا ہے کہ یہ پیسہ کسی طرح سے واپس آتا نہیں ہے، ڈوب جاتا ہے۔ میں فائیننس منسٹر

†**سید سبط رضی "اتر پردیش"**: سر، آپ کی انومتی سے میں جو سادھارن ڈپازیٹر ہیں جو اپنی ہارڈانڈر سیونگ کو نان بینکنگ فائیننشیل کمپنیز میں جمع کرتے ہیں، ان کی جو پریشانیاں ہیں، اس کے بارے میں ہاؤس کا اور خاص کرکے فائیننس منسٹر صاحب کی توجہ دلانا چاہونگا۔

مانیور آپکو یاد ہوگا کہ پہلے چٹ فنڈ کمپنیاں بنتی تھیں اور ان میں ہمارے سادھارن انوسینٹ سیٹیز اپنا کافی پیسہ جمع کرتے تھے اور وہ یہ ورگ جو پیسہ جمع کرتا ہے، نشچت روپ سے بہت کم آمدنی کے لوگ ہوتے ہیں، بہت سے ماڈریٹ انکم کے لوگ ہوتے ہیں۔ جو زندگی بھر کی انکی سیونگ ہوتی ہے، وہ چٹ فنڈ کمپنی میں جمع کر دیتے ہیں۔ بہر حال، سرکار ایک بار قانون لائی ، اور ان چٹ فنڈ کمپنیز کو انٹرول کیا۔ اس کے بعد نان بینکنگ فائیننس کمپنیز کا سلسلہ شروع ہوا۔ ان کمپنیز میں بھی بہت زیادہ ریٹ آف انٹریسٹ کے لالچ میں سادھارن ڈپارٹیز پیسہ جمع کرنے لگے۔ دھیرے دھیرے یہ

†[]Transilteration in Arabic Script

مادھیم سے اکاؤنٹس کھول کر کے وہ پیسہ ودڈرا کر لیا جاتا ہے۔ ابھی میرے ساتھ مانیور، یہی واقعہ ہوا، میں اسکو ایک ایگزامپل کی صورت میں رکھنا چاہتا ہوں۔ میں نے ۲۴ نومبر ۱۹۹۰ کو ایک منتھلی انکم کی اسکیم لی یو۔ٹی۔آئی۔ کی ، اور وہ میچور ہوگئی۔ اس بیچ میں میں نے اس پردھیان نہیں دیا۔جب اسکا سمے سماپت ہوگیا تو اپریل میں میں نے ان سے کانٹیکٹ کیا کہ ہمارے پیسے کا کیا ہوا۔ تو انھوں نے اپنے کاغزات دکھائے اور کاغزات دیکھنے کے بعد ہم کو بتایا کہ ۱۶ دسمبر ۱۹۹۷ کو آپکو ۲۰,۴۰۰ روپے کا چیک بناکر بھیج دیا گیا ہے۔ میں نے کہا کہ مجھے تو کوئی چیک نہیں بھیجا ہے نہ مجھے کوئی چیک ملا ہے۔ تو اس کے بعد انھوں نے مجھے ایک پتر لکھا کہ آپکو پوسٹ آفس کے ذریعہ فلاں فلاں تاریخ کو پیسے بھیجے گئے ہیں۔ میں نے جب اور انکوائری کی تو انھوں نے مجھے چیک کی ایک فوٹو کاپی دی۔ اس میں میرا نام لکھا ہوا ہے، میرے گھر کا لکھنؤ کا پتہ لکھا ہوا ہےاور سارا ماؤنٹ دیا ہوا ہے۔ اس میں لکھا ہے، "اکاؤنٹ پیئی، ناٹ نگوشیئبل،ناٹ ٹرانسفریبل" اب اس کا حشر کیا ہوا، اس چیک کا؟

صاحب کی اس طرف توجہ دلانا چاہتا ہوں کہ اس سلسلے میں ریزرو بینک آف انڈیا کے چیف جنرل مینجر جو ڈپارٹمنٹ آف نان بینکنگ کا سپرویزن کرتے ہیں، انھوں نے ایک اسٹیٹمنٹ دیا جس میں انھوں نے کہا کہ جو کمپنیز ایسا کریں گی، ان کے خلاف کرمنل پروسیوکیوشن چلایا جائیگا اور ان کو بند بھی کیا جا سکتا ہے۔ یہ تو نان بینکنگ فائننیسس کمپنیز کے بارے میں ہوا لیکن آج جو سب سے بڑا مسئلہ ہے، آپ کے سامنے پیش کرنے جا رہا ہوں، وہ یہ ہے کہ یونٹ ٹرسٹ آف انڈیا جو ہماری پارلیمنٹ کے ایک ایکٹ کے تحت بنا ہوا فایئنیشیل انسی ٹیوشن ہے اور اس میں کئی سالوں سے ایک طرح کی بینکنگ ہوتی چلی آرہی ہے۔ موڈس آپرینڈی اس میں یہ ہے کہ جب چیکس فائنل بھگتان کےلئے تیار ہوتے ہیں تو وہ کسی نہ کسی طرح سے پوسٹ آفس کے ذریعہ انٹرسٹ کر لئے جاتے ہیں۔ ہمارے لکھنؤ کے علاقے میں یہ کافی ہوا ہے۔ میں آپ کو پرسنل ایکسپیرینس بھی بتاؤنگا۔ ہندوستان کے دوسرے کونوں میں اور صوبوں میں بھی ایسا ہو رہا ہے کہ پوسٹ آفس سے انٹرسپیٹ کرنے کے بعد بینک کے

کہ یہ کیسیز پر سیو نہیں ہونگے۔ کیونکہ پچھلے کئی سالوں سے میں نے اس کا پیمنٹ نہیں لیا تھا۔ تو ان کو اس طرح سے کونائیو کرتے ہیں پوسٹ آفس کے ذریعہ، بینک کے ذریعہ، اپنے رجسٹرار کے آفس کے ذریعہ ،ہو سکتا ہے یو۔ٹی۔آئی کے استر پر اور بھی اسمیں انوالو ہوں۔ تو اس میٹر کی پوری جانچ ہونی چاہئے۔ میں ا سے ایک ٹرسٹ کیس کی صورت میں آپ کے سامنے پیش کر رہا ہوں۔

یو۔ٹی۔آئی۔ اس دیش کا ایک بہت بڑا فائینینشیئل انسٹی ٹیوشن ہے جو لگ بھگ ۸۰ ہزار کروڑ روپئے سے ڈیل کرتا ہےاور جس میں ۲۵ ملین سادھارن جو ہمارے ڈپازیٹرس ہیں وہ اپنا پیسہ جمع کراتے ہیں۔ انھوں نے مجھے پتر میں یہ بھی بتایا کہ انھوں نے پولیس اسٹیشن کو اس کی رپورٹ لکھی ہے۔ میں واضع کرنا چاہتا ہوں ان کی چٹھی جو ۱۸ مئی ۱۹۹۸کو انھوں نے مجھے لکھی ہے، میرا جو ان سے ایکس پلینیشن، تھا اور جو سوچنا میں نے ان سے چاہی تھی اسکے جواب میں:

Wc have lodged complaints with the post office, conecerned bank and the Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi

یہاں دہلی میں ایک بینک ہے "انرس سندھ بینک پرائیویٹ کمیٹڈ بارہ کھمباروڈ" اس کے اندر کاؤنٹ کھولا گیا اور جن لوگوں نے اکاؤنٹ کھولا ان کے نام بھی اس چیک کے اندر د ئے گئے ہیں:

"Recived payments as collecting agents These will be rcdited on realisation".

†اب اس وی۔ایس۔ آر۔ایس۔ کمیٹڈ کا کیا پورا فارم ہوتا ہے یہ تو مجھے معلوم نہیں۔ لیکن یہ جو رجسٹرار ہے انھوں نے لکھ رکھا ہے:

"If this instrument is presented for clearing through a newly opened account, then kindly demand counterfoil and other documents to verify the correctness and identity of the person. In case of any doubt, please contact our branch office."

†اس میں اور شرطیں لکھی ہوئی ہیں۔ مانیور، میں یہ کہنا چاہونگا کہ ابھی قریب قریب پچھلے ایک سال کےاندر، جو مجھے سو چنا دی گئی ہے، ۳۵۰ کیسیز ہوئے ہیں جن میں اس طرح سے کونائیوینس کے ذریعہ انٹرسپیٹ کرکے ہوا ہے۔ میں نے انکے مینجر کو ، ڈپٹی منیجر کو بلا آپ اسکی انکوائری کریئے، جانچ کریئے۔ ہمیں یہ پتہ چلا ہے کہ جن کیسیز میں ان کو شبہہ ہوتا ہے

†[ ]Transilteration in Arabic Script

†مانیور، میں بتانا چاہتا ہوں کہ انھوں نے یہ کہا کہ پولیس کو انھوں نے ۱۱ ,اپریل ۱۹۹۸ کو ایف۔آئی۔آر۔لکھ دی ہے اور پولیس اس پر کوئی ایکشن نہیں لے رہی ہے۔ اب ایک ممبر آف پارلیمنٹ خود جاکر ملتا ہے، اسکے بعد اتنا ایکشن ہوتا ہے تومیں کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ گورکھپور، جے پور، لکھنوٴیا جنئی کا رہنے والا، سادھارن ڈپازیٹر تو یو۔ٹی۔آئی۔ کا دفتر بھی نہیں دیکھ سکےگا۔ مہودے، ۱۵ ہزار، بیس ہزار پتہ نہیں کتنے ایسے معاملے ہیں جوکہ بہت دنوں سے چل رہے ہیں۔ اس لئے سرکار کواس طرف توجہ دینا چاہئے۔ جیساکہ میں نے ابھی کہا ڈپٹی جنرل منیجر رزرو بینک آف انڈیا نے نان بینکنگ فائنینشیئل کمپنیز کے بارے میں کہا ہے کہ ہم ان کے خلاف پرسیکیوشن لائیں گے اور ساتھ ساتھ ایسی کمپنیزکو بندکریں گے۔

مانیور، آپ کے مادھیم سے ایک کو آپریٹیو بینک کا میں نے ابھی تزکرہ کیا، اسی طرح بتایا گیا ہے کہ ۲.۳ بینک اور ہیں۔ ایک انڈوس بینک پرائیویٹ کمیٹڈ دہلی کےا ندر ہے۔ میں جاننا چاہونگا رزرو بینک اس کے خلاف ایکشن کیوں نہیں لینے جا

†تینوں باتوں پر مانیور غور کریں کہ انھوں نے کمپلین لاج کی پولیس میں، پوسٹ آفس میں اور کسرنڈ بینک کے خلاف ریزرو بینک آف انڈیاکو بھی لکھ دیا:

An FIR has been lodged with the Cannaught Place Police Station, New Delhi, on 11.4.1998. The police is yet to register the same. The matter has been brought to the knowledge of the Commissioner of Police, New Delhi, to expedite the investigation and heip us to get the refund from the erring bank and concerned imposter who had deprived out valuable investors of their hard earned money.

یہ جوکچھ بھی ہوا ہے، میرے پرسنل پرسویئنس کے بعد ہوا ہے ۔ یہ مسٹر سیٹھیا ہے، ڈپٹی جنرل مینجر انھوں نے مجھے....

†اپ سبھا ادھیکش "شری سناتن بسی": کرپیا سماپت کریں۔

†سید سبط رضی: مانیور، مجھے کمپلیٹ توکرنے دیجئے۔

Sir, please give me two more minutes. This is a very important matter. If the general investors are going to be affected and if this House is not going to take cognizance of this select case then I think wc will not be discharging the duties properly.

†[ ]Transilteratian in Arabic Script

This is very important matter. This relates to the commonman of the country.

†مانیور، اگر سرکار نے اس طرف توجہ نہیں دی اور ایف۔آئی۔آر۔ اور پولیس کے ذریعہ معاملے کو نپٹانے کی کوشش کی تو اس طرح کے فراڈ ہوتے رہیں گے جنہیں روکنے کی بہت آوشیکتا ہے۔ آپ نے مجھے بولنے کے لئے وقت دیا، بہت بہت دھنیواد۔ "ختم شد"

Closure of Sick Central Public Sector Undertakings and privatisation of profit making central public sector undertakings through disinvestment

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE (WEST BENGAL): Probably it is the repetition of the same fact, the same cry in the wilderness which I am doing time and again. I must repeat again of what is happening in the whole country. Today, itself, in the morning I got an intimation about one more public sector undertaking, Bengal Immunity that there has been a suspension of operation in spite of the fact that it has not been called, it has not been asked to be wound up by BIFR, in spite of the fact that there is no other crisis excepting working capital. Without inforiming the Labour Commission, without informing the Labour Ministry, without informing anyone, the management has fully suspended operation in the public sector undertaking, Bengal Immunity employing 1,200 employees. Now this is the starting of the day. The message which has gone through the Budget is being implemented with enthusiasm or over-enthusiasm immediately. I would like to point out to this Government that the Parliament is still in session, there is a decision in the statement of the Finance Minister that he will piivatise, he will close down all the sick units and he will

رہا ہے؟ مانیور، اس پرکار ان کو پوری غیر ذمہ داری کے طریقے سے بینک نے نپٹایا ہے اور نشچت روپ سے یہ بینکر جانتے تھے کہ اس معاملہ میں کہیں نہ کہیں کوئی گھپلا ہے۔ اس لئے میں اس کیس کو ایک سلیکٹ کیس کی حیثیت سے رکھنا چاہتا ہوں کیونکہ اسکی وجہ سے بہت سارے انویسٹرس کے انٹریسٹ رسک پر ہیں۔ میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ اگر یو۔ٹی۔آئی۔ جیسی 'پرسٹی جیسئیس' انسٹی ٹیوشن اس طرف دھیان نہیں دے رہی ہے تو پھر اس کا مطلب ہے کہ یہ جو پرائیویٹ فائینینشیل کمپنیز کھلی ہیں اور وہ کوئی گھپلا کرتی ہیں تو انھیں بھی کوئی پوچھنے والا نہیں ہے اور بینک کے ذریعہ جو فراڈس ہو رہے ہیں، اس طرف بھی کوئی توجہ نہیں دی جارہی ہے۔

مانیور، میرا آپکے مادھیم سے فائینس منسٹر اور خاص طور سے پوری گورنمنٹ سے اس بات کا انورودھ ہے کہ وہ اس معاملے کی طرف توجہ دیگی اور کوئی ایسا راستہ نکالے گی کہ سادھارن انویسٹرس کا بہت کا فائدہ پوشیدہ ہو اور اس طرح سر جوینگنگ اور فراڈ ہو رہا ہے۔ اس کو روکنے کی کوشش کی جائے:

privatise all the profit making public sector units. It has not got the sanciton of the Parliament. The assets have been created through the Parliament. The President has 100 per cent shares. If the share is being diluted below 50 per cent then I would appeal to this House, I would appeal to ail the people here— those who have got any feelings for the workers, 20 lakh workers are involved — that this must be discussed in the Parliament. Even the private promoters cannot take such decisions. If this is the signal you are going to give that anyone can suspend his operation only because working capital is not there then tomorrow any profit making industry, as Mr. Yoginder Alagh was referring, the blue chip companies in this country can be privatised with a single stroke of a pen. We are losing our assets and the Parliament has become a silent spectator. Would the Parliament remain a silent spectator? All the trade unions in the whole of the country are holding demonstrations. How long will the Parliament be a silent spectator of the sale of our public sector—when the Parliament is not even being informed about it? How long will we remain silent spectators, Sir? This is my question.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN MJW: Shri A. Vijaya Ragha-van. He is not nere. Shri Ramnarayan Goswami. He is also not here. Shri Nilotpal Basu. He is not here. Shri Vayalar Ravi. He is also not here.

Shri Md. Salim.

Unrest in Maruti Udyog Limited

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम (पश्चिमी बंगाल): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, वैसे तो मेरा मामला दूसरा है, लेकिन इसी के साथ संबंधित है। हमारे यहां जो पब्लिक सेक्टर प्रोफिटेबल है...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): आपका नाम इसमें नहीं है। आपका नाम तो मारूति उद्योग के विषय में है।

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम: सर, मैं इसी पर कह रहा हूं, कि हमारे प्रोफिटेबल पब्लिक सेक्टर, किसी तरह से दबाव में आकर हो या एल्योरमेंट में आ कर हो, लालच से हो , वह हमारे हाथ से आहिस्ता-आहिस्ता छोड़े जा रहे है। मारूति उद्योग लिमिटेड इसका एक क्लाकसिक एग्जाम्पल है कि किस तरह से हम पब्लिक सेक्टर बनाते है, कि तरह से गवर्नमेंट उसे कन्सेशन देती है जमीन से लेकर टेक्स तक में, उसके बाद जब वह भारत की एक जैम इंडस्ट्री बन जाती है तो उसको किस तरह से हम मल्टीनेशनल के हाथ में ट्रांसफ्र कर देते हैं। गवर्नमेंट को जिन कंपनियों को आगे बढ़ाना चाहिए, ऊपर उठाना चाहिए, मदद देनी चाहिए, उसको तो बंद कर हैंइ है। So, it is a question of privatisation of profits and nationalisation of losses.

तो इस तरह से हमारे मुल्क को ही अंदर से खोखला बनाने की कोशिश की जा रही है। मारूति उद्योग लिमिटेड के बारे में मंत्री महोदय ने अचानक एक स्टेटमेंत उस दिन दिया यहां पर और उसमें यह कहा कि एक एग्रीमेंट हो गया है आऊट आफ द कोर्ट सेटलमेंट। उन्होंने उस रोज हम लोगों को यह कहा था। आज मैं सभापती महोदय के प्रति ग्रेटफुल हूं कि उन्होंने मेरा यह स्पेशन मेंशन एलाऊ किया। आपको मालूम होगा कि उस दिन मंत्री महोदय ने नेशन को मिसलीड किया इस हाऊस को इस्तेमाल करेके, कि गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया का इसमें कोई रोल नहीं है, यह सवाल सुजुकी मोटर कंपनी और मांरूति उद्योग लिमिटेड का है, मगर यह जो मारूति उद्योग लिमिटेड और सुजुकी का टाई अम है, यह जो एग्रीमेंत हुआ है, प्रेसीडेंट आफ इंडिया के नाम पर ही एग्रीमेंट हुआ है। प्रेसीडेंट आफ इंडिया में पार्लियामेंट का महत्व भी होगा है। वर्ष 1982 में जो एग्रीमेंट हुआ था उस को 1992 में उस समय की सरकार ने बदल दिया , उस पर भी हमारी आपत्ति है। आज ऐसी स्थिति है कि 50 प्रतिशत इक्विटि होल्डिंग सुजुकी मोटर की है और 50 प्रतिशत हिन्दुस्तान की है, जिसमें 49.74 गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया की है और 0.26 एम्पलाईज की है, इस प्रकार 50 परसेंट हमारी है। मैं एक लेटर पहले कोट करुंगा , चूंकि एग्रीमेंट भी यही कहता है .....(व्यवधान).....

†شری محمد سلیم: اپ سبھا ادھیکش جی۔ ویسے تو میرا معاملہ دوسرا ہے۔ لیکن اسی کے ساتھ سمبندھت ہے۔ ہمارے

†[] Transilteration in Arabic Script

کی جا رہی ہے۔ ماروتی ادیوگ کمیٹڈ کے بارے میں منتری مہودے نے نے اچانک ایک اسٹیٹمنٹ اس دن دیا یہاں پر اور اسمیں یہ کہا کہ ایک ایگریمنٹ ہو گیا ہے "آؤٹ آف دہ کورٹ سٹلمنٹ" انھوں نے اس روز ہم لوگوں کو یہ کہا تھا۔ آج میں سبھا پتی مہودے کے پرتی گریٹفل ہوں کہ انھوں نے میرا یہ اسپیشل مینشن الاؤکیا۔ آپ کو معلوم ہوگا کہ اس دن منتری مہودے نے نیشنس کو مس لیڈ کیا۔ اس ہاؤس کو استعمال کر کے کہ گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا کا اسمیں کوئی رول نہیں ہے۔ یہ سوال سوزوکی موٹر کمپنی اور ماروتی ادیوگ لمیٹڈ کا ہے مگر یہ جو ماروتی ادیوگ لمیٹڈ اور سوزوکی کا ٹائی اپ ہے۔ یہ جو ایگریمنٹ ہوا ہے پریسیڈنٹ آف انڈیا کے نام پر ہی ایگریمنٹ ہوا ہے۔ پریسیڈنٹ آف انڈیا میں پارلیمنٹ کا مہتو بھی ہوتا ہے ورش ۱۹۸۲ میں جو ایگریمنٹ ہوا تھا اسکو ۱۹۹۲ میں اس سمے کی سرکار نے بدل دیا۔ اس پر بھی ہماری آپتی ہے۔ آج ایسی استھتی ہے کہ ۵۰ فیصد ایکیوٹی سوزوکی موٹر کی ہے اور ۵۰ فیصد ھندوستان کی ہے جسمیں ۴۹.۷۴ گورنمنٹ آف

یہاں جو پبلک سیکٹر پرافٹ اپیل ہے...

شری سناتن بیسی "اپ سبھا ادھیکش": آپ کا نام اسمیں نہیں ہے آپ کا نام تو ماروتی ادیوگ کے و شے میں ہے۔

شری محمد سلیم: سر۔ میں اسی پرکہہ رہا ہوں کہ ہمارے پرافٹ ایبل پبلک سیکٹر کسی طرح سے دباؤ میں آکر ہویا ایلیورمنٹ میں آکر ہو۔ لالچ سے ہو وہ ہمارے ہاتھ سے آہستہ آہستہ چھوڑے جا رہے ہیں۔ ماروتی ادیوگ لمیٹڈ اسکا ایک کلاسک ایگزامپل ہے کہ کس طرح سے ہم پبلک سیکٹر بناتے ہیں۔ کسطرح سےگورنمنٹ ا سے کنسیشن دیتی ہے زمین سے لیکر ٹیکس تک مین۔ اسکے بعد جب وہ بھارت کی ایک "جیم انڈسٹری" بن جاتی ہےتو اسکوکس طرح سے ہم ملٹی نیشنل کے ہاتھ میں ٹرانسفر کر دیتے ہیں۔ گورنمنٹ کو جن کمپنیوں کے آگے بڑھانا چاہئے۔ اوپر اٹھانا چاہئے۔ مدد دینا چاہئے اسکوتو بندکر رہی ہے:

So, It is a question of priatisation of profits and nationalisation of losses.

†تو اسطرح سے ہمارے ملک کو ہی اندر سے کھوکھلا بنانے کی کوشش

انڈیا کی ہے اور صفراعتسار یہ ۲۶ امپلائز کی ہے اس پر کار ۵۰ پرسینٹ ہماری ہے۔ میں ایک لیٹر پہلے کوڈ کرونگا کیونکہ ایگریمنٹ بھی یہی کہتا ہے:

प्रो0 विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दिल्ली): सर, मेरा पाइंट आफ आर्डर है। स्पेशल मेंशन का टाइम लिमिट एक घंटा था। We decided in the Business Advisory Committee that Special Mentions... *(Interruptions)* One hour has already gone. It is not a debating time... *(Interruptions)* There are other things. *(Interruptions)*

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): मैं आपकी बात में इंटरफीयर नहीं करता हूं, लेकिन .....(व्यवधान)..... नहीं, नहीं, उनका मेटर है- अनरेस्ट इन मारूति उद्योग। .....(व्यवधान).....

He is only supporting. *(Interruptions)*

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम: आपकी मर्जी से हाऊस चलेगा क्या? .....(व्यवधान).....

प्रो0 विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: नहीं, मेरी मर्जी का सवाल नहीं है। .....(व्यवधान).....

Don't rub me that way. *(Interruptions)*

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): नहीं, नहीं, ऐसा मत बोलिए। हम यहां बैंठे है, न । .....(व्यवधान).....

प्रो0 विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह तीन मिनट टाइम है स्पेशल मेंशन का रूल्स के मुताबिक। आखिर कोई समय सीमा होनी चाहिए। यह हाउस स्पेशल मेंशन के लिए ही नहीं है, हमें गवर्नमेंट बिजनेस भी पास करना है। ....(व्यवधान).....

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West , Bengal): Where is the Cabinet Minister, Sir? *(Interruptions)*

प्रो0 विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: 6:00 बजे तक का टाइम था स्पेशल मेंशन के लिए। एक घंटा बीत गया और अभी कई स्पेशल मेंशन पड़े है। प्लीज, आप सदस्यों से कहिए कि थोड़े में बात कहें। अगर पन्द्रह-पन्द्रह मिनट हर सदस्य बोलेगा तो कैसे चलेगा। .....(व्यवधान).....

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Kerala): I want to make a submission, Sir. Special Mentions, Zero Hour Submissions, every-ting is being discussed in this House. You are a Member of this House. Mr. Malhotra is a Member of this House. We all know this has been going on. I feel the ruling party must have enough patience. They must accommodate the Op- ' position. If you don't want us, we will walk out. You run the House. You don't want us to be here. You run the show. *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Please. Please, Raviji. *(Interruptions)*

प्रो0 विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: सर, प्रणब जी ने वहां यह बात कही थी, मैंने नहीं कही थी, आपके लीडर ने यह बात कही थी, आखिर, कोई टाइम लिमिट होनी चाहिए, समय सीमा होनी चाहिए। .....(व्यवधान).....

Your leader said it. *(Interruptions)*

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Sir, since morning I have been watching. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Malhotra is always trying to give directions to the Chair. *(Interruptions)*

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): बैठिए, बैठ जाइए, ...(व्यवधान)..... हम लोग इस पर टाइम खराब न करें। .....(व्यवधान).....

प्रो0 विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: कब तक चलेगा यह स्पेशल मेंशन ? .....(व्यवधान).....

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): प्लीज, प्लीज। प्लीज ऐसे टाइम खराब मत कीजिए। .....(व्यवधान).....SHRI MD. SALIM: The Whip of the ruling party is not the monitor of the House. If you don't allow us to speak, then you won't be able to pass the Government Business.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Sir, the hon. Member cannot dictate terms to the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MD. SALIM: They cannot pass even a single Bill without the co-operation of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Sir, if there is any further interruption, then we will go out of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... We won't be here.

श्री मोम्मद सलीमः आप चाहेंगे तभी हम बोलेंगे? कुछ तो लोकतंत्र का ध्यान किजिए । .....(व्यवधान).....

†**شری محمد سلیم:** آپ چاہیں گے تبھی ہم بولیں گے۔کچھ تو لوکتنتر کا دھیان کریئے ..."مداخلت"...

प्रो0 विजय कुमार मल्होत्राः इसका मतलब सारा टाइम आप ही बोलेंगे, यही लोकतंत्र है? .....(व्यवधान).....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: Mr. Salim, please take your seat.

श्री मोम्मद सलीमः क्या रूलिंग दिया उनके प्वाइंट आफ ऑर्डर पर आपने?

†**شری محمد سلیم:** کیا رولنگ دیا انکے پوائنٹ آف آرڈر پر آپ نے۔

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (Shri Sanatan Bisi): No, no. There is no point of order. These are not the matters of point of order. Mr. Salim, please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is not associating with others. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MD. SALIM: Sir, the Whip of the ruling party is creating disorder in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

प्रो0 विजय कुमार मल्होत्राः कितने बजे तक चलाएंगे आप, यह बता दीजिए?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): प्लीज़ टेक यूअर सीट। एक मिनट बैठिए। मिस्टर सलीम जो बोल रहे हैं, उनका स्पेशन मेंशन है, वह ऐसोसिएट नहीं कर रहे हैं।

प्रो0 विजय कुमार मल्होत्राः मैं सिर्फ यह कह रहा हूं कि ये स्पेशल मेंशन कब तक चलेंगे, कब बिल आना है? .....(व्यवधान)..... आप हमें टाइम बता दीजिए कि बिल कितने बजे आएगा? .....(व्यवधान).....

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): ठीक है। मिस्टर सलीम अब समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री मोम्मद सलीमः सर, कन्कलूड करने से पहले मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि ज़ीरो ऑवर और स्पेशल मेंशन मैम्बर का राइटऐ चाहे वह किसी भी पार्टी का हो।

†**شری محمد سلیم:** سر۔کنکلوڈ کرنے سے پہلے میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ زیرو آور اور اسپیشل مینشن ممبر کا رائٹ ہے چاہے وہ کسی بھی پارٹی کا ہو۔

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Please don't go into all those things.

SHRI MD. SALIM: We have sacrificed the Zero Hour.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): That is known to everyone. Please conclude your Special Mention.

SHRI MD. SALIM: Sir, here I would like to quote from a letter written by Osamu Suzuki to the Secretary, Department of Heavy Industry. It states, "Maruti is a private company equally shared by the Government of India and Suzuki Motor Corporation, and appointment of Board Members and their positions in corporate organisation are determined after agreement between both shareholders. The Managing Director is to be elected alternately from the Board Members nominated by both shareholders. In reality, it was common understanding that election of Managing Director of Maruti was virtually conducted in accordance with agreement of the representatives of both shareholders." When the question came in respect of their nominee as the Managing Director in 1995, when the Government of India wanted to remove the Managing Director appointed by/nominated by Suzuki Motor Corporation, they said, "It is not

†[ ]Transilteration in Arabic Script

your business. Government of India, you keep quiet. It is our nominee." This is what the Suzuki Motor Corporation says to the Secretary, Department of Heavy Industry. It says, "It is none of your business. I nominated him. He will continue up to five years. Then it will be your turn and you will nominate. We cannot exchange." And when our turn came, according to the agreement between the President of India, Maruti Udyog Limited and the Suzuki Motor Corporation as per article 5.1 and 5.2, for five years of the Government of India will nominate. All of a sudden, without amending the original agreement, the Minister comes up with an out-of-court settlement. The case was pending in the International Court of Arbitration. The aggrieved party, namely, the Suzuki Motor Corporation had gone to that court. We were on a strong ground. They were about to lose the case. All of a sudden, the Minister comes up with a statement saying हम मेनेजिंग डायरेक्टर को 31 दिसम्बर, 1998 तक चेंज कर देंगे और उसे बिठाएंगे जिसको गवर्नमेंट बिठाएगी।

†ہم منیجنگ ڈائریکٹر ۳۱ دسمبر ۱۹۹۸ تک چینج کردیں گے اور ا سے بٹھائیں گے جس کو گورنمنٹ بٹھایئگی۔

the Government is a continuining entity. Mr. Ram Jethmalani is here. Though it is not his subject, he is a legal luminary. He fought all these cases earlier. Now, Sir, the Government of India is changing its stand and saying that from 1st January, 2000 that person will be the Managing Director who is going to be accepted by the Suzuki Motor Corporation, during our period of five years. Then, who is that* I am not going to name him. The question is, the person who was ousted from the post by the Government of India saying that he is not looking after the interest of the Government of India and Maruti Udyog Limited, but he is acting at the behest of the Suzuki Motor Corporation, the same person has been rehabilitated as Government of India's nominee during our period.

†[ ]Transilteration in Arabic Script

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

6.00 P.M.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri John F. Fernandes) in the Chair] :

It is a question of sell-out. Suzuki Motor Corporation for the last five years is trying to purchase politicians belonging to different colours, different parties. They are out with a bang, alluring politicians, saying to them, "You fight for our cause." Your party stood by principles and the Governfment which talks of Swadeshi, the Government which talks about the national prestige, the Government which talks against multi-national companies. कि मल्टी- नेशनल्स को हम भगाएंगे, बोतल तोड़ेगे, आज वह पार्टी, वह सरकार सुजुकी मोटर्स के पास हमारी इज्ज़त को, हमारे अधिकार को, हमारी ऐग्रीमेंट के क्लाज़ को पैरोम तले रौंद देती है और सिर झुकाकर मान लेती है।

†جو سرکار یہ کہتی تھی کہ ملٹی نیشنلس کو ہم بھگائیں گے۔ بوتل توڑئیں گے۔ آج وہ پارٹی ۔ وہ سرکار سوزوکی موٹرس کے پاس ہماری عزت کو۔ ہمارے ادھیکار کو۔ ہماری ایگریمینٹ کے کلاز کو پیروں تلے روند دیتی ہےاور سرجھکا کر مان لیتی ہے۔

Is it the way to fight sanctions, to please Japanese investors? No. बल्कि आपने अपनी जो कमजोरी है,

†بلکہ آپ نے اپنی جو کمزوری ہے۔

You have opened a counter for bargain: "Come, bargain and gain." और जो आपके बैकरूम

ब्वायेज़ है आपके पी0एम0ओ0 और इंडस्ट्री मिनिस्ट्री में, इंडस्ट्री मिनिस्टर को मालूम नहीं कि सैटरडे-संडे को ऐग्रीमेंत हुआ, आऊट ऑफ कोर्ट सैटलमेंत हुआ और मंडे को आकर उन्होंने यहां प्लेस कर दिया। इंडस्ट्री मिनिस्टर को मालूम नहीं, इंडस्ट्रियल सेक्रेटरी को मालूम नहीं। क्या इस तरह से वह काम करेंगे? आज मारूति उद्योग लिमिटेड के तमाम यूनियन के लोग धरना दे रहे हैं, डैमोन्सट्रेशन कर रहे हैं जो प्रॉफ्टिबल प्राइवेट सैक्टर है जिसमे हमने हजारों-लाखों रुपए की रिआयत दी है, आज उसे सुजूकी मोटर्स को प्रैक्टिकली होल्डिग्ज़ न बढ़ाकर भी उसके हाथ में आप दे रहे हैं उनकी मरजी के मुताबिक, उनकी सुविधा के मुताबिक, सुजूकी का पूरे विश्व में कहीम बिजनैस नही हो पा रहा है, जापान में भी नही हो पा रहा है। उसका जो टोटल टर्नओबर है, उसका 50 परसेंट से ज्यादा हिस्सा मारूति उद्योग से आता है आज हम उनके सामने घुटने टेक रहे हैं। अभी तो ओपन है। हम किसि से भी बारगेन कर सकते थे। टेक्रोलोजी का जहां तक सवाल है,ऐग्रीमेंट में वह बात , टेक्रोलोजी देने की बात है लेकिन आपने उस क्लॉज को इनिशियेट नहीम किया, आपने नहीं लिया कि टेक्रोलोजी देने के लिए आप बाध्य है और आपने उनके सामने सिर झुका दिया, मैं इसका प्रतिवाद करता हूं और मांग करता हूं कि इन सब बातों को सामने रखकर मंत्री जी का एक बारे में एक स्टेटमेंट आना चाहिए। देश की संपत्ति को इस तरह से यह सरकार विदेशियों के हाथ में बेचेगी तो इसका अंजाम बहुत बुरा होगा।

†**شری محمد سلیم**: اور جو آپکے بیک روم بوائز ہیں آپ کے بی۔ایم۔او۔ اور انڈسٹری منسٹری میں۔ انڈسٹری منسٹر کو معلوم نہیں کہ سیٹرڈے سنڈے کو ایگریمنٹ ہوا آؤٹ آف کورٹ سنٹلمنٹ ہوا اور منڈے کو آکر انھوں نے یہاں پلیس کر دیا۔ انڈسٹری منسٹر کومعلوم نہیں۔ انڈسٹریل سکریٹری کو معلوم نہیں۔کیا اسطرح سےوہ کام کرینگے۔آج ماروتی ادیوگ لمیٹڈ کے تمام یونین کے لوگ دھرنا دے رہے ہیں ڈمونسٹریشن کر رہے ہیں۔ جو پروفٹ ایبل پرائیویٹ سیکٹر ہیں جسمیں ہم نے ہزارو لاکھوں روپیہ کی رعایت دی ہے۔ آج ا سے سوزوکی موٹرس کو پریکٹیکلی ہولڈ نگز نہ بڑھاکر بھی اسکے ہاتھ میں آپ دے رہے ہیں۔ انکی مرضی کے مطابق انکی سویدھا کے مطابق۔ سوزوکی کا پورے وشو میں کہیں بزنس نہیں ہوپا رہا ہے اسکا جتھوٹل ٹرن اوور ہے اسکا ۵۰ فیصد سے زیادہ حصہ ماروتی ادیوگ سے آتا ہے۔ اورآج ہم انکے سامنے گھٹنے ٹیک رہے ہیں۔ ابھی تو اوپن ہے۔ ہم کسی سے بھی بارگین کر سکتے تھے۔ ٹیکنا لوجی کا جہاں تک سوال ہے۔ایگریمنٹ میں وہ بات ہے۔ ٹیکنالوجی دینے کی بات ہے لیکن آپ نے اس کا لج کو انیشی ایٹ نہیں کیا۔ آپنے نہیں لکھا ہےکہ ٹیکنالوجی دینے کے لئے آپ باد ھے ہیں اور آپنے انکے سامنے سرجھکا دیا۔ میں اسکا پرتیواد کرتا ہوں اور مانگ کرتا ہوں کہ ان سب باتوں کو سامنے رکھکر منتری جی کا اس بارے میں ایک اسٹیٹمنٹ آنا چاہئے۔ دیش کی سمپتی کو اس طرح سے یہ سرکار ودیشیوں کے ہاتھ

† [ ]Transilteration in Arabic Script

میں بیچیگی تو اسکا انجام بہت برا ہوگا۔ "ختم شد"

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI , R. KUMARAMANGALAM): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I have a request. *(Interruptions)* The hon. Member used * *(Interruptions)* 'I do not want to name the * At this stage he used the word, * *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): He was referring to whom? Whom were you referring to, Mr. Salim? To the hon. Minister?

SHRI R. KUMAR AMANGALAM: It is not parliamentary. We do not use it. *(Interruptions)* That should not go on record. *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): In what context it has been referred? I have to go through the record. Mr. Minister, I will go through the record if it is used in a wrong manner. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA (Bihar): It is not unparliamentary. *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): If it is used against the Minister, I think, it is not proper. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Be it an individual. Minister is no better and no worse than any citizen of India. *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): I will go through the record.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal): It is for the first time in my life I hear that the word * is an offensive word. It cannot be unparliamentary.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): I have a record before me. It is unparliamentary and it will be expunged. Mr. Ahluwalia now.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

श्री समशेर सिंह सुरजेवाला (हरियाणा): महोदय, मैं यह कहना हूं कि मारूति उद्योग लिमिटेड को हरियाणा में प्राईम लैंड फूटी कोडियों के भाव दी गई थी इसलिए क्योकि वह सरकार की कंपनी थी। हमने वहां पर कैप्टिव प्लांट लगाया था अपने प्रांत की बिजली देकर। आप प्रबंध उनके हाथ में सौंपकर जहां देश का बहुत बड़ा नुकसान कर रहे है वही हरियाणा का भी बड़ा भारी नुकसान कर रहे हैं। जापान वालों को यह कंपनी देकर आप हमारा बहुत बड़ा नुकसान कर रहे हैं। हमने इस कंपनी को लगाने में मदद करके इस देश के लोगों के लिए सैक्रिफाईस किया था, किसी प्राइवेट आदमी के लिए, प्राइवेट कंपनी के लिए सैक्रिफाईस नहीं किया था।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Okay, please take your seat. Shri Ahluwalia now

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA (Bihar): I have a separate subject. *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): On a separate subject only. That is over now. Mr. Ahluwalia, there is an announcement by the Parliamentary Affairs Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI DILIP RAY): The House is to transact certain important business today. Dinner has been arranged for the hon. Members, Press and the staff. Dinner will be available at 8 p.m. in Room No. 70 for the hon. Members and the Press and in Room No. 73 for the staff.

Pilferage of Data from B.A.R.C. Plants Regarding Nuclear Explosion by Computer Hackers

श्री एस0एस0 अहलुवालिया (बिहार): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण मद्दा उठाना चाहता हूं। मैं पिछले छः दिन से इंतजार कर रहा था इस मुद्दे को आपको सामने रखने के लिए, पर सदन के सामने और भी बहुत महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दे

थे जिस कारण यह दब गया। पर राष्ट्र के हित में यह जानना बहुत जरूरी था कि कुछ दीन पहले कम्प्यूटर मैकर्स ने बताया कि उन्होंने भाभा एटोमिक रिसर्च सेंटर से उनके ई-मेल पर जितने एविडेंसेज थे या जितनी भी मेल आई थी पोखरण एक्सप्लोजन के बाद, न्यूक्लियर टैस्ट के बारे में जितने डाटा थे उसको उन्होंने चोरी किया है। महोदय, यह पिलफेज जो भाभा एटोमिक रिसर्च सेंटर से हुई, मैं इस सदन में इससे पहले भी इस सवाल को उठा चुका हूं कि मोड्म आज एक बहुत खतरनाक इंस्ट्रूमेंट है जो हम लोगों ने अपने देश में पश्चिमी देशों से आया हुआ मोड्म शुरू किया है और मोड्स के साथ-साथ वह जो इंटरनेट का सिस्टम है इस इंटरनेंट के माध्यम से हम क्या-क्या खुराफात कर सकते हैं और क्या-क्या इंफमेंशन चोरी कर सकते हैं, क्या-क्या इंफामेंशन किसी को बताए बगैर पास ऑन का सकते हैं इसके बारे में हमको अंदाजा नहीं है। महोदय, करीब तीन हजार कम्प्यूटार हैकर्स दुनियां में साईवरस्पेस के थ्रू काम कर रहे है और इन्होंने खतरे की घंटी बजा दी है। जब उन्होंने हमारे पोखरण टेस्ट की सारी इंफामेंशन, इनका कहना है कि जितना ई-मेल में आया बी0ए0आर0सी0 में वह सारा का सारा ऑफ लोड कर लिया और यह फाइल मेगावाइट इंफामेंशन है जो उन्होंने ऑफ लोड की और उसके बाद उन्होंने एज ए प्रूफ एक इंटरनेट मेग्जीन-वर्ल्ड न्यूज और दूसरी मेग्जीन है-एंटीऑनलाईन मेग्जीन इन दोनों को इन्होंने एज ए एविडेंस कुछ ऑफ लोड किए- डाटा ट्रांसफ्र किए। महोदय, यह कम्प्यूटर हैकर्स इतने खतरनाक हैं और जो हालैंड, न्यूलीलैंड और इंग्लैंड के है, इन्होंने जो खतरे की घंटी आज हमारे सामने बजाई है। अगर आज हम जागरूक नहीं हुए तो हमारा भी वही है होगा। हमें सीखना चाहिए कि ऐसे ही कम्प्यूटर हैकर्स ने एक दिन जो हमारी कम्प्यूटर की और इंटरनेंट की जो सिस्टम है उसके जो प्रोग्राम है उसके जो फायरवाल्स हैं वह अगर पूरी तरह सुरक्षित न हों तो किस तरह यह प्रवेश कर सकते है? महोदय, सी0आई0ए0 के डायरेक्टर के आईडेंटिटी कार्ड का कम्प्यूटर में जो फोटोग्राफ था इन कम्प्यूटर हैकर्स ने उन फोटोग्राफ को हटाकर एक नंगी औरत की तस्वीर लगा दी। यह इतनी गंभीरता से काम कर सकते हैं। महोदय, हिन्दुस्तान तो हिन्दुस्तान है। इन्होंने यूनाइटेड स्टेट्स आफ अमेरिका के डिफेंस डिपार्टमेंट को नहीं छोड़ा। वहां पर प्रवेश करके उनके डाटा को उलट कर दिया, वहां के डाटा चोरी कर लिए। लारेंस लिवरमोर नेशनल लेबोरेट्री के डाटा चोरी कर लिए महोदय, पेटागन अमेरिका की इतनी बडी संख्या है जहां इन्होंने इनंटरनेट के माध्यम से प्रवेश किया। महोदय, इन्होंने दि यू0एस0 डिफेंस इंफामेंशन सेंटर की सारी इंफारमेंशन को चेंज करवा दिया, नासा के जैट प्रपोत्सन में यह इंटरनेंट के माध्यम से प्रवेश कर गए। महोदय, मैसासयूट्स इंस्ट्रीट्यूट आफ टेक्रोलीजी की सारी इंफरमेंशन इन्होंने इंटरनेंट के माध्यम से चोरी की। इन्होंने इजराइली केसनेट पर हमला बोला और महोदय, यह तो देखने की बात है कि इहयुड तेनबॉम एक छोटा कच्ची उम्र का नौजवान- इजराइली नौजवान जो सबसे पहले मशहूर हुआ जिसने इजराइल की केसनेट को तोड़ा। आज वह बेताज बादशह है मॉडेम का। वह इज़राइल के पी0सी0 रीटेलर्स का बेताज बादशह बन गया है। मिलियन ऑफ डॉलर्स उसकी कीमत पड़ती है और वह इहुड टेनीबम उर्फ ऐनालाइज़र के रूप में जाना जाता है। मैं इसे खतरे की घंटी इसलिए कह रहा हूं कि अगर तो हम वाकयी जो हमारा कंप्यूटर है स्टार, बी0ए0आर0सी0 ई0आर0नेट0 इन डोमेन, जो होम पेज हमारा है, उस कम्प्यूटर में ई-मेल मेम जो चिट्ठियां हमें काग्रेचुलेशन्स की मिली थीं या लोगों खॅ ऑब्ज़वेंशन की आई थीं, अगर तो वही था ई-मेल में और वहीं उन्होंने डाउन लोड किया है है तब तो कोई खतरे की बात नहीं है पर जो इनफॉर्मेशन, 5 एंबिक इनफॉर्मेशन उन्होंने वायर्ड न्यूज को और एंटी ऑन लाईन मैंमज़ीन को दी है, अगर वह सच है तो वाकयी हमें सोचने की जरूरत है की बी0ए0आर0सी0 जैसी संस्था जहा हम अरबों रुपया खर्च करते है, हमारे सांइसदानों को देते है और जहां हम तरह-तरह के वैज्ञानिक उपकरणों के माध्यम अनुसंधान करते हैं और नई-नई चीज़ों की खोज करते हैं, वह सारा डाटा अगर ये कम्प्यूटर हैकर्स के माध्यम से विदेशों में चला जाएगा तो हमारे लिए बडी दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण अवस्था होगी। तो मैं चाहता हूं आपके माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना और मैं समझता हूं कि अब तक सरकार को सदन के सामने आकर इस पर बयान देना चाहिए था कि सारे विश्व में एक हल्ला सा हो रहा है कि भाभा ऐटामिक रिसर्च सेंटर के जितने डाटा हमने कलेक्ट किए थे न्यूक्लीयर एक्सप्लोज़न में, वे सारे के सारे डिस्कलोज़ हो गए। हमने पिछले दिनों देखा कि इससे मे हमारा डीकोडिंग नंबर जो था, वह लीक-आउट हो गया था। उसको लेकर बडी इनक्वारियां हुई, केस चले, बहुत कुछ हुआ लेकिन आज तक सच्चाई सामने नहीं आई। अपने देशे के इस सारे डाटा और अनुसंधान की सारी रिपोर्ट्स की सुरक्षा अपनाने के पहेल..हम मॉडेम तो खरीद लेते है, हम इंटरनेट का कनेक्शन तो ले लेते हैं किन्तु अपने डाटा

को हम किस तरह से बचा सकें सरवर के माध्यम से या जो हम सरवर का प्रोग्रम लेते है, उसमें भी जो फायर वॉल है, जो सिक्योरिटी वॉल है, वह पूरी संतुष्टि की है या नहीं है, उस पर विचार नहीं करते हैं, उस पर जरूर विचार करने की ज़रूरत है और सरकार सदन के सामने आकर बताने की कृपा करे कि वाकयी यह बी0ए0आ0बी0 का डाटा चोरी नहीं हुआ? क्या अवस्था रही है और आईदा से हमारे ऐसे वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधानों का डाटा चोरी नहीं हो सकेगा, उसके लिए फुलप्रूफ अरेंजमेंट सरकार ने किया है? यह सदन को बताएं और सदन के माध्यम से देश को बताएं। इसीलिए मैंने यह विशेष उल्लेख किया था। धन्यवाद। ।

DR. Y. RADHAKRISHNA MURTY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, permission has been given on the same subject to two persons. So, I think, I had a right to speak at least for two minutes. That is the first point.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (JOHN F. FERNANDES): First you start speaking.

DR. Y. RADHAKRISHNA MURTY: I am starting. Sir, I am not going to repeat the whole story which the hon. senior Member had said. Sir, shorn of jargon and shorn of mystification of these words saying that hacking of dark website of the cyber kits and all that. It simply means that a theft had taken place in computers of the most sensitive part of our country and that is the BARC (Bhabha Automic Research Centre). It is a theft of an intellectual property. They mentioned not only the work that has been done for decades by our scientists but also the nominees of the scientists who have worked for this. I would only like to mention a funny part of the story. These kids coming from two different Continents — one from USA, one from UK and the other from Holland — have hubbled together to commit a theft in the third Continent and that it in India and the story they put forward is that they had committed this theft for three purposes. One is that they are interested in making the computer system very safe They want to show that the present computer system is not safe. The second reason they have provided is that they are interested in making computer manufacturers aware of the flaws in manufacturing computers. The third reason, which is very interesting, they have provided is that they want to make the world very safe, and safer than what it is now. They are exposing nuclear secrets of various countries. Of course, our scientists, as usual, have denied that no critical material had been stolen, and that critical material is not accessible to these kids, only routine material has been stolen by them. But, they did admit that some material has been stolen. The language of denial or half-denial raises suspicion as to whether any material of national security has gone into the hands of our adversaries. The most important point is whether the so-called innocent, intelligent, adventurous, cyber kids are only a mask for the more dangerous international intellectual *mafias* operating from somewhere in the world. We all agree that there is not very tight security for our country, the national security. The Government should make a full enquiry and come out with the facts and allay the apprehensions of the people, and should also take proper measures to safeguard materials of our national importance. Thank you, Sir.

Irregularities In Recruitment by Railway Recruitment Board

श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावत (राजस्थान): महोदय, मैं इस उल्लेख के द्वारा एक ऐसी घटना की ओर सदन का ध्यान आकर्षिउत करना चाहता हूं जो सामान्यतया इस संपूर्ण देश में आजादी के बाद अपने प्रकार की विशेषता रखती है। एक रेवले भर्ती बोर्ड नामक संस्था है जो हमारे यहां कनिष्ठ लोगों की भर्ती करती है। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, पिछले कुछ वर्षो के अंदर उनके अप्वायंटमेंट्स किए गये। उसमें भर्ती करने का जो नायाब तरीका अपनाया गया है। अजमेर के भर्ती बोर्ड ने लगभग तीस कैडर की भर्तियां पिछले दो साल के अंदर कीं। उसमें जो एक सज्जन थे, वह एक विशेष राज्य से आए थे, बिहार से और उन्होंने कहा कि जो पैसा देता जाए, थे, बिहार से और उन्होंने कहा कि जो पैसा देता जाए, वह छात्र अपनी कापी को खाली छोड़ता जाए। इस प्रकार

कापियां खाली छूटती गयीं। उसमें करोड़ों रुपये वसूल किए गये और वसूल करने के बाद एक विशेष जिले के लोगों को पिछले दो वर्षो में भर्ती करने का क्रम जारी रहा। जब आखिरी किश्त मोहम्मद गजनवी के तरीके से लूटकर यह सारे लोग जा रहे थे, चेयरमैन, सैक्रेटरी और उसके मैंम्बर्स तो सी0बी0आई0 को इसकी इनफॉर्मेशन मिली और ट्रेन में से उतरते हुए उनकी अटैचियों की तलाशी ली गयी जिनमें लाखों रुपये बरामद किये गये। उसके बाद उनको गिरफ्तार किया गया किन्तु वह एक दूसरा प्रकरण है। परन्तु ढाई क्विटल चांदी तो वह दिल्ली के बाजार में आकर बेचकर चले गये। लोगों के करोड़ों रुपये लिए गये और इस प्रकार सारे देश में जितने भी भर्ती बोर्ड बने, उनके अंदर एक प्रक्रिया अपनाई गयी और एक विशेष स्थान से लोगों का पिछली बात गत सरकार के द्वारा, चयन किया गया। महोदय, भर्ती बोर्डों के मैम्बर कैसे अप्वायंट किये गये थे, उसकी ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। जैसे एक सज्जन मिलने के लिए आए और उन्होंने आकर कहां " मंत्री जी नमस्कार"। उन्होंने कहा "आप आ गए" रेलवे भर्ती बोर्ड के मैम्बर बन जाइए।

"You will be glad to know that Ministry of Railway have decided to place your name on the panel of the non-official member of the Railway Recruitment Board. For being associated with the Interview Committee, representative of backward classes, you are requested to please get in touch with the Chairman of the Railway Recruitment Board, who is being advised to obtain you b1o-data for completing necessary formalities."

बायोडाटा नहीं, ऐप्लीकेशन नहीं , जानकारी नहीं, आने वाला नहीं और उसको वहां पर मैम्बर, अप्वायंट कर दिया गया। इस प्रकार मेरा निवेदन है कि लाखों लोगों से करोड़ों रुपये लूटे गये। मैं चाहता हूं कि रिक्रूटमेंट के नियमों में परिवर्तन किया जाए और यू0पी0एस0सी0 के द्वारा भर्ती बोर्डों के मैम्बर और चेयरमैन का चयन किया जाए। इसके अतिरिक्त ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव उच्च स्तरीय जांच की जाए, इन सारे भर्ती बोर्डों के पिछले दो साल के कार्यकलापों की ओर जो करोड़ों रुपये लूट लिये गये हैं तथा जिन लोगों के वह लूटे गये हैं उनको रुपया वापिस कैसे लौटाया जा सकता है, उसकी व्यवस्था हो। मैं सदन के सामने एक विशेष प्रकार का घटनाक्रम इस विशेष उल्लेख के जरिए लाना चाहता था। मैं अपेक्षा करता हूं कि सरकार इस पर ध्यान देगी।

Issue of Chandigarh

श्री बरजिन्दर सिंह (पंजाब); सर, मैं पहली बार बोल रहा हूं। पहले जब बम पर डिस्कशन हुआ था तब मेरा नम्बर भी आया था लेकिन पता नहीं क्यों मेरा नाम काट दिया गया और दूसरे साहिबान को जो मेरे साथी थे, बोलने का मौका दिया गया। ये तो जस्ट एक बात है।

आपने जो मुझे बोलने के लिए टाइम दिया उसके लिए धन्यवाद । यहां मैं चण्डीगढ़ के बारे में बात करना चाहता हूं। होम मिनिस्टर श्री आडणणी जी ने लोक सभा में रिटर्न रिप्लाई में जो कहा कि चण्डीगढ़ यूनियन टेरिटरी रहेगा, इससे बहुत से पंजाबियों को, जो अलग सैक्शन वाले पंजाबी हैं, उनको धक्का लगा है। We never expected from the Home Minister this because we always demanded that Chandigarh should be given to Punjab.
पंजाब में अकाली और भाजपा की गवर्नमेंट चल रही है और सेन्टर में भी अकाली –भाजपा के साथ गवर्नमेंट चला रहे है। हमारे पंजाब के चीफ मिनिस्टर का जो बयान छपा है उसकी कुछ लाइनें मैं पढ़ना चाहूंगा-

The Punjab Chief Minister said, "It is unfortunate that successive Central Governments have continued to ignore our legitimate claims. Chandigarh belongs to Punjab and in this we are not seeking any special concession from the Centre." According to him both the law as well as the past precedents dictated that in any division of State the existing Capital always remains in the parent State.

यह बात उन्होंने उस वक्त कही जब उनके साथ उनके साथी बीजेपी के जो मिनिस्टर थे वे भी बैठे हुए थे। मैं कुछ मिनटों में, पंजाबियों की जो फ्रीडम स्ट्रगल है, उसमें पंजाबियों का जो हिस्सा रहा, उसकी तरफ आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहूंगा । मुझे यह कहने में पूरा गर्व है और मैं गौरव महसूस करता हूं कि पंजाब ने फ्रीडम स्ट्रगल के लिए बहुत हिस्सा लिया। वहां बहुत सी मूवमेंट है, अकाली मूवमेंट है, कम्युनिस्टों की मूवमेंट है, गदर मूवमेट है और किसानों की इतनी मूवमेंट चली है कि उन सब में पंजाबी शहीद हुए। उस वक्त जितनी उम्र कैद पंजाबियों की हुई है उससे हमारा सिर गौरब से ऊंचा हो उठता है। लेकिन एक बात मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं कि बिफोर पार्टिशन , 1947 से पहले जो पंजाब था आज उसका सिर्फ 20 परसेंट ही यहां बचा है। 1996 में पंजाब का डिविजन हुआ तो इंक्लूडिंग चंडीगढ़ तो यह

लम्बी कहानी है, मैं इसमें नहीं जाना चाहता हूं वे पंजाब से बाहर निकाल दिये गये। तो बात यह हुई कि जब होलोकास्ट हुआ सन् 47 में, लाखों लोग वहां मर गये, बेघर हो गए, यहां उजड़कर आ गए तो पं0 नेहरू जो हमारे ग्रेट प्राइम मिनिस्टर रहे उनके मन में एक सपना था कि पंजाबियों का जिनका कैपिटल लाहौर उनसे बिंछड़ गया है या जिसे व छोड़ आए है या जो उनका हिस्सा नहीं रहा, उनको जरूर एक कैपिटल बनाकर दिया जाएगा। उन्होंने दो काम किये। एक हमें भाखड़ा डैम दिया और दूसरा चण्डीगढ़, जो ड्रीम लेते थे, उन्होंने यह दिया। लेकिन मुझे अफसोस है कि यह दोनों चीजें आज पंजाब से छीन ली गई है । इसके पीछे बहुत बडीई कहानी है, बहुत सी पोलिटिकल चीजें है। मैं इस डिटेल में नहीं जाना चाहता हूं । मैं तो यह कहूंगा कि जो इनजास्टिस पंजाबियों के साथ, हमारे साथ लगातार इन इश्युज पर होता आया है, कैपिटल जो हमारी है, जो हमें मिलनी चाहिये वह अब सेंटर का हिस्सा है। वह भी हमसे छिन गया है। मैं आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं कि पंजाब के पिछले 10-12-15 साल हमारे बहुत दुखद, मैं यह कहूंगा कि एगोनी के दौर से गुजरे हैं, हमने वह सब कुछ झेला है। हमारे सामने जो खून बहा है पंजाब की धरती पर, जो ज़ख्म पजाब के सीने पर लगे है, वह हमने सारे देखे है। मैं समझता हूं कि ऐसा रीपीट नहीं होना चाहिये। लेकिन इसकी जो शुरुआत थी, वह पंजाब की कुछ डिमांड्ज के बारे में थी। पहले डिमांड्ज अकाली पार्टी और दूसरी पार्टियों ने की। वह डिमांड्ज़ जब नहीं मानी गई तो कम्पलीकेटेड सिचुयेशन होती गई। उसका नतीजा बल्यु स्टार आप्रेशन, फौज का हमला अमृतसर दरबार साहब में, उसके बाद श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी की हत्या हुई, उसके बाद 1984 के रायट हुए। बहुत ही दुखद दौर हमने देखा है। पंजाब ने अपने सीने पर यह दुखद दौर झेला है लेकिन उसके बाद राजीव लौंगोवाल अकार्ड हुआ। मूझे अफसोस है कि उस अकार्ड को भी इम्पलीमेंट नहीं किया गया। स्पष्ट लिखा था कि फलां तारीख को चण्डीगढ़ पंजाब को दे दिया जाएगा लेकिन राजीव जी ने वह भी नहीं किया और अभी तक राजीव लौंगोवाल अकार्ड वैसे ही रहा है और चण्डीगढ़ हमें नहीं मिल सका है। एक बात और मैं कहना चाहूंगा पिछले जो स्टेट असेम्बली के इलेक्शन पंजाब में हुए उसमें भारतीय जनता पार्टी और अकाली दल दोनों अलाई थे। उन्होंने इसके लिए कॉमन मिनिमम प्रोग्राम बनाया, जो सब अखबारों में भी छपा, पेम्फेलेट भी छपे। उनमें भारतीय जनता पार्टी का जो पंजाब यूनिट है उसने यह कहा कि विद दॉ कनसेंट आफ सेंट्रल लीडरशिप एंड दॉ पार्टी इस विषय इलेक्शन लड़ा गया कि Chandigarh and other Punjabi-speaking areas belong to Punjab. They should be given to Punjab. ? लेकिन अब हमें यह हैरानी है कि भारतीय जनता पार्टी सेंटर में है और पंजाब में अकालियों के साथ उनका गठजोड़ है, हमारे होम मिनिस्टर साहब यह स्टेटमेंट दे रहे है। इसका मतलब यह है कि यह अब पंजाब को नहीं मिलेगा। मैं समझता हूं कि यह पंजाब के साथ, हमारे साथ बेइन्साफी है। चण्डीगढ़ एंड अदर पंजाबी स्पीकिंग एरियाज़ पंजाब को मिलने चाहिये हरियाणा और हिमाचल हमारे भाई है। हमारा इनका प्यार, हमारा इनका लेन-देन है। मैं समझता हूं कि चण्डीगढ़ और अदर पंजाबी स्पीकिंग एरियाज़ पंजाब को देने की बात पर आपस में बैठ कर सेंटर और स्टेट्स को हल निकालना चाहिये। मैं उम्मीद करता था कि विद दि गवर्नमेंट यह मसला हल होगा लेकिन तीन महीने के बाद भी मैं महसूस करता हूं कि इन स्टेट्स का जो झगड़ा है उसको निपटाने के लिए कुछ भी नहीं किया गया। पंजाब में भी भापजा अकाली सरकार है, हरियाणा में भी भाजपा अकाली अलाई हैं और हिमाचल में तो भाजपा की सरकार है। मैं यह समझता था कि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट इनिशियेटिव लेगी इन स्टेटों को बुला कर जो उनके पेंडिंग मसले है उनको हल करेगी लेकिन मेरा ख्याल है कि आने के बाद एक कदम भी इस तरफ नहीं बढ़ाया गया है। अपनी खिंचाव पैदा करने की कोशिश बन जाएगी, जिसको हम पूरी तरह से अपोज़ करते है।

श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया (उत्तर प्रदेश): मैं सरकार बरजिन्दर सिंह जी ने चंडीगढ़ के बारे में जो विचार व्यक्त किए हैं उनसे अपने आपको एसोसिएट करता हूं।

मैं एक ही शब्द कहता हूं कि माननीय गृह मंत्री जी ने यह नया इश्यू खड़ा कर दिया। यह तो झगड़ा खत्म हो चुका था। इसमें तो इंप्लीमेंटेशन में हेराफेरी या झिझक दिखायी गई है। फैसला हुआ था 25 जनवरी की रात और 26 जनवरी, 1986 की सुबह को कि चंडीगढ़ पंजाब के हवाले कर दिया जाएगा। यह फैसला हो चुका था राजीव-लौगोवाल एकार्ड में, पार्लियामेंट में, उस सदन में, लोक सभा में और इधर। इसको यूनिनैमसली एप्रव कर दिया गया था। तो मैं समझता हूं कि माननीय गृह मंत्री जी ने यह नया विवाद शुरू कर दिया एक हल हो चुके मसले को दुबारा शुरू करके। जो देश के हित में नहीं, पंजाब के हित में नहीं, हरियाणा के हित में नहीं।

दो भाईयों की तरह जो मसला हल हो रहा था उसमें गड़बड़ पैदा की है।

मैं अपने आपको सरदार साहब से एसोसिएट करता हूं।

Economic blockage of National Highways No. 39 and 53

SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH (Manipur):

Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, for allowing mc to raise a special issue for saving the lives of the people of Manipur.

Sir. Manipur is a land-locked State. There is no water-way or railway to reach the St; c. The National Highways arc the only life-line for the State of Manipur. There are two National Highways. One, the National Highway No. 39, passes through Nagaland. Another, the National Highway No. S3, passes through Assam, Silchar. Nowadays the National Highway No. S3 is not in a proper condition to be utilised. The National Highway No. 39 is the only life-line for the State of Manipur now.

The present position is that this National Highway has been blocked by launching an economic blockage by two Naga organisations, the Naga National Council and the Naga Students Union, who arc opposing the creation of a separate Sadar Hill (Kangpokpi) District in Manipur. This blockage is continuing from the 21st of May, 1998.

The creation of the Sadar Hill (Kangpokpi) District is the common demand of all the regional and national level parties in the State. The Creation of the separate Sadar Hill (Kangpokpi) District has been included in the election manifestos of all the parties.

The present Government has decided to create this district. On hearing that the Naga organisation, the Naga National Council and the Naga Students Union proposed the economic blockage of the National Highway. The present Chief Minister called a meeting of all the parties to discuss about the creation of the Sadar Hill (Kangpokpi) District. All the parties took a decision to request the Naga organisations to withdraw the blockage, but the Naga organisations have rcfuesed it.

Now, the present position is that all the trucks carrying essential commodities and oil tankers have been damaged "on the way when they are coming to approached the capital of Manipur, Imphal. The truck owners resolved not to ply on this road without Security. Because of this the people of Manipur are now not able to receive essential commodities. In order to save them from this state of affairs, I would request the hon. Home Minister to take immediate measures so that the essential commodities safely reach Manipur.

Another appeal to the Central Government is thai the Government of India should recruit National Highway Security Force so that they can be utilised for protection of National Highways where there is absence of railways in the border state like Manipur.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): We have nine more speakers. We will permit two minutes to each speaker. Just make suggestions, so that the Minister can reply to you. Wc have already debated enough on it. Shri Raghavji.

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

Alarming Deterioration in Power and Water Supply Situation in the Country Contd.—

श्री राघवजी (मध्य प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, समय के अभाव के कारण मैं अपनी बात को केवल पेयजल की समस्या तक सीमित रखूंगा। मान्यवर, यह सर्वविदित है कि प्राणी की जीवन रक्षा के लिए वायु और जल नितांत आवश्यक है । वैसे इस पृथ्वी पर जल की कमी नहीं है और पृथ्वी का दो-तिहाई से ज्यादा हिस्सा जल से आच्छादित है, किंतु दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि इस में समुद्र का खारा पानी 97.4 परसेंट है, बर्फीले स्थान पर 1.8 परसेंट और पीने योग्य पानी सिर्फ 0.8 परसेंट है और इसी कारण यह समस्या उत्पन्न होती है।

मान्यवर, देश को आजाद हुए 50 वर्स को गए है, लेकिन स्थिति यह है कि 31.12.97 को यहअनुमानित

किया गया था कि हिदुस्तान में खूळ 14,30,663 बस्तियां है जि मेम 49,374 ऐसी है जहां कि पानी लाने के लिए बहुत दूर तक यानी 1.6 किलोमीटर से भी ज्यादा दूर तक चलाना पड़ता है क्योंकि उस स्थान के आसपास पानी नहीं हैं। इस के अलावा 3,54,305 बस्तियां ऐसी है जिन में पर्याप्त पानी नहीं है । मान्यवर, एक व्यक्ति को प्रति दिन 40 लीटर पानी चाहिए लेकिन उतना पानी उपलब्ध नही होता है। इसीलिए वर्ल्ड बैंक के वाइस-प्रेसीडेंट श्री इस्माईल सेरागोल्डीन ने ठीक ही कहा है कि:

"Wars of next century will not be over oil or politics, but over water."

मान्यवर, आज देश की यह स्थिति हो गयी है। इसी संबंध में 1992 में डबलिन में इंटरनेशन्ल कांफरेंस ऑन वाटर मैनेजमेंट हुई थी जिस में चेतावनी दी गयी थी कि:"Scarcity and misuse of fresh water poses a serious and growing threat to sustainable development and protection of the environment.

अब यह अनुमानित किया जा रहा है कि हिंदुस्तान में 2030 में पानी का बड़ा भयंकर संकट आएगा और यह संकट इसलिए भी दिन-प्रतिदिन बढ़ता जा रहा है क्योंकि 1991 में जहां प्रति व्यक्ति 2213 क्यूबिक मीटर रह गया है और आगे आने वाले वर्षो में और भी घटेगा । इसका कारण यह है कि जनसंख्या बढ़ रही है, कृषि में पानी का ज्यादा उपयोग हो रहा है और उद्योग-धंधे बढ़ रहे है। इससे भी पानी अधिक लगता है और इस कारण से ऐसी स्थिति उत्पन्न हुई है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हिन्दुस्तान में कई कसबे ऐसे है जिनकी जनसंख्या 20,000 से भी कम है, लेकिन वहां पर भी पीने का पर्याप्त पानी उपलब्ध नही है। ऐसी स्थिति में पानी की समस्या पर विचार करने की आवश्यकता है। सेंटर फोर साइंस एंड एनवायरमेंट ने अपने सर्वे में यह लिखा है कि एक ग्रामीण महिला को एक वर्ष में अपने लिए पानी लाने के लिए और जलाऊ लकदी को इक्ट्ठा करने के लिए प्रतिवर्ष 1400 किलोमीटर चलना पड़ता है। ऐसी स्थिति हिन्दुस्तान में है। यह जो ऐसी स्थिति उत्पन्न हो रही है, इसको ठीक करने की आवश्यकता है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं केवल तीन-चार सुझाव देकर अपनी बात खतम करूंगा। आप बार-बार घंटी चूंकि बजा रहे है, मैं ज्यादा टाइम नहीं लूंगा और अगली बार आपको घंटी न बजानी पड़े, ऐसा मैं चाहूंगा। पहला मेरा सुझाव यह है कि हमारा जल प्रबंध ठीक होना चाहिए। अगर पानी में मितव्ययिता नहीं होगी तो पानी, जो समिति मात्रा मे है, उसको अधिक लोगों के लिए कैसे उपयोग में लिया जाएगा? इसके लिए जल प्रबंध की बढ़िया व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। दूसरा सुझाव मेरा यह है कि पानी का सतह आज काफी नीचे उतरता जा रहा है, इसलिए इसके रीचार्ज की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए और रीचार्ज की व्यवस्था के लिए फिर से पुरानी पद्वति को हमें अपनाना होगा, तालाबों को फिर से जीवित करना होगा। जिन तालाबों का अतिक्रमण हो गया है, उन अतिक्रमणों को हटाकर फिर से तालाब व्यवस्थित करके उनमें पानी पहुंच जाए, इसकी व्यवस्था करनी होगी। तीसरा मेरा सुझाव यह है, आज पीने के पानी में प्रदूषण कुछ कारखाने कर रहे है। यह एक बडी समस्या हो गई है। खासतौर से जो शराब के कारखाने है, वे सारे नदियों के किनारे है और वे भारी प्रदूषण पीने के पानी में करते है। एक-एक कारखाना जो है सौ-सौ किलोमीटर तक नदी को खराब करता है और पानी को दूषित करता है। इसलिए ऐसे कारखाने को प्रतिबंधित करना चाहिए कि वे नदी के किनारे पर न हो।

महोदय, एक और सुझाव देकर मैं अपनी बात खतम कर रहा हूं और वह यह कि शासन –निधि में से जो हम सांसदों को खर्च करने के लिए अभी एक करोड़ रुपया मिल रहा है और आगे दो करोड़ मिलने वाला है, अगर हम अपने यहां की जल व्यवस्था के लिए उसमें से पैसा खर्च करते है तो आधा पैसा हमको वापस मिलना चाहिए अन्य स्कीमों के लिए। मैं समझता हूं कि इससे भी बहुत कुछ इस समस्या का हल हो सकेगा।

महोदय, कहने को तो अधिक था, लेकिन समय की मर्यादा के कारण और नहीं कह पा रहा हूं। इन शब्दों के साथ आपने जो समय मुझे दिया है, उसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN- (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Shri M.P. Abdussamad Samadani. Please take two minutes.

SHRI M.P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI (Kerala): Sir, I will be very brief. 1 will only put forth a few suggestions regarding this very serious problem that wc are discussing now. It is quite a pity and it is quite regrettable that a country like India which has enough resources is facing a very serious problem regarding scarcity of power and water. We are

facing even drinking water problem in the villages. My suggestion to the hon. Minister and to the Government is that the Government should do something urgent to make every Panchayat self-sufficient and self-reliant by providing enough facilities in the case of production of energy and also making drinking water available.

Sir, for years we have been talking about this energy theft. It is quite unfortunate that the hon. Minister is engaged in a discussion.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN. F. FERNANDES): I think the Minister has come very close to you so that he can listen to you. Mr. Kumar-mangalam, the Member is requesting your attention.

SHRI M.P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI: Thank you. Regarding this energy theft we have been facing this problem for many years, but till now we could not find a solution to it. I would request the Government that something should be done urgently to make the situation better.

Another thing is, we have to utilise nature and natural resources to face this problem. For example, the production of solar energy is very important. But unfortunately much has not been done in this field. I would like to know from the hon. > Minister what steps the Government propose to take to exploit solar energy.

Another thing is we have enough rivers, but we have not utilised them fully. Then, pollution is there. The antipollution measures should be strengthened. Necessary steps should be taken for purification of river water. India has enough water resources. When I speak of this, I am reminded of a poet who said:

"इक समुन्दर ने आवाज़ दी कि मुझको पानी पिला दीजिए"

That is the case of India. We have enough water and we have enough resources. But even after having all these things, we are complaining. Why? It is because of the wrong policy pursued by us. Secondly, I would like to know as to what the policy of the Government towards borcwell is. I don't oppose this scheme. The borewell scheme is the only solution, especially in villages to- make drinking water available. But it has been said by the scientists that digging of borcwell is weakening the groundwater resources. What is the stand of the Government in this regard? Sir, the developed nations, particularly the modern nations, are making an attempt to purify sea water. I think, our Government will also be compelled in future to think in this direction so that sea wcter is purified and thus drinking water is made available. In many countries, especially, in the Gulf countries, this thing is being done and drinking water is being made available. We can also think of accepting this model. With these suggestions, I conclude.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I would not like to repeat what has been said so far. I think my notice was for power and water crisis in Delhi. We are going to discuss about the national issue when the Regulatory Commission Bill comes before this House. My point is that this is an issue relating to power shortage in Delhi itself which should make the Government and all of us rethink. Why should there be rethinking? We are speaking about the Regulatory Commission "Bill and all that. The reason are well known. Why is there a power crisis in Delhi? Firstly, there is theft, secondly there is a gap in demand and supply and thirdly, the Board is inefficient. The symptoms were all known. It is not that all of a sudden, this problem has cropped up. These were the reasons before this crisis became so acute. Whatever reasons are being given today, they were well within the knowledge of everybody. It has not happened all of a sudden. I have got the paper cuttings with me. The hon. Minister is a very knowledgeable person. He has quoted certain news-iten.;. He has gone all the way to say on 26fh March, 1998

that "the capital summer woes may end." It has been stated in a news-item in "The Statesman" that uninterrupted power supply would be ensured during summer. In a news-item in the "National Herald" it has been reported that continuous power for the city would be assured. These assurances were given after discussions. You know the problem and you have diagnosed it. Then you find that it did not click. What docs this mean? It means that there is some problem. I was just telling the Minister outside that the old man in a hurry, is a problem. But the young man in a hurry will be a bigger problem for the power sector. I don't want to score a debating point over him. I know he is an .advocate. Professionally, Dr. Alagh is there to deal with him. This is an issue which requires rethinking. You can't diagnose this problem within two minutes and you can't find a solution to this problem within two minutes. It is not something like that. It requires time. So far as the problem of power and water in Delhi is concerned, someone has to be made accountable for this problem. In spite of knowing all these things, why has this problem not been attended to? There is a power theft to the extent of 47 per cent. The DVB is useless. Why did this happen? What was the contingency plan? What was the short term plan? What is the long term plan? You cannot mix up all these things. A suggestion was made by some hon. Member that within a month, the problem of theft would be over. I cannot agree with him on this point. It requires deep thinking. If this deep thinking had come you would not have moved the Regulatory Commission Bill, which you propose to move after some time. The Delhi example should make him think again. Please sit together, discuss the matter with the professionals throughout the country, discuss it with all sorts of people, diagnose the problem correctly, then have a short term prescription and a long term prescription. Otherwise, you will have to come to Parliament and say, as you said yesterday: "Okay. This is not the problem which has arisen today. It will take some time." Please rethink about it. The power crisis in Delhi is a lesson for the whole country. I would request the Minister to rethink over this issue.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Mr. Mukher jee, thank you very much for being very brief.

SHRI BRAHMKUMAR BHATT (Gujarat): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I would also like to confine myself only to the " problem of Delhi power crisis because if I go to the general power scenario in the country, it will take a long time. But before I go to the Delhi power crisis, I would point out to the hon. Power Minister one thing. The requirement of power in the Ninth Five Year Plan is already published and circulated by two authorities. One is the Central Electricity Authority *(interruptions)* The hon. Power Minister may just listen to this. Your Department has circulated two volumes, one by the Central Electricity Authority about the requirement of power in the Ninth Five Year Plan, and the other is circulated by the Power Section of the Planning Commission of India, as to what will be required in the Ninth Five Year Plan, and these two are contradictory. I have seen both the volumes. That is why I am telling you that they are contradictory.

I would like to tell you one thing more. In India, coal leakage is a very big problem, but the freight rate for coal is more than the price of coal itself for so many State electricity boards in this country. The only way out or the best way out is to have as much hydel power as possible. In respect of hydel power, there will be no escalation in price. The Chairman of the Power Grid Corporation of India has told me in a meeting that they are prepared to transmit power @ 5 paise per unit. Now, Sir, if they are prepared to transmit power @ 5 paise per unit, then we should draw as much hydel power as possible. In Himachal Pradesh, there is a lot of hydel power potential. In many other countries, say in Nepal, there

is a very large possibility of hydel power. Wherever the hydel power is available, that hydel power should be drawn.

Secondly, I would like to submit a point only about the Delhi power crisis. The rate of power thefts is 40 per cent. Mr. Power Minister, who is committing power thefts? Don't blame only the *jhug-gi-jhompri* people. I can assure you that even the five star hotels, the industrial ists, the big people are involved. They arc all involved in the power thefts. Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking is a corrupt organisation, and I can tell you from my experience that one of the biggest indus trial houses in this country was caught for slow metering, and the penalty imposed-was Rs.4 crores of rupees. Four crores of rupees! And they had to pay that in 24 hours. Sir, nobody is an exception. If you pick pocket for five rupees, it is an offence, but people think that committing power theft is no offence. That is the main reason why DESU is in this poor condition today. And secondly, whatever is due to NTPC and others, they think, they arc normally not supposed to pay. Even last year, thousands of crores of rupees, which DESU was supposed to pay to NTPC, were all wiped out and that amount was paid by the Central Government. I asked the Minister at that time, "Why arc you wiping out this debt which is supposed to be paid by DESU to NTPC?" Then the reply given was .....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Mr. Bhatt, you have taken more than two minutes. Please conclude.

SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: One minute, Sir. A lot of people have taken a lot of time, but I will finish in two minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): You please just put pointed questions to the Minister so that he can reply to you.

SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: I will finish in two minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): No, no; there is no time.

SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Mr. Vicc-Chairman, Sir, people have taken half-an-hour. I am taking two minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): No; your party has no time. Your leader have taken 25 minutes. So, you conclude now. Make pointed suggestions to the hon. Minister so that he can reply to you.

SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: While the reply give by the power Minister was fccvit fit TRqFft t, (M*ll4l I

In *Rajdhani,* everything can be done. My friend, Mr. Dipankar Mukherjee, has said, a lot of assurances are given, but nothing has happened. Even in south Avenue, it has been our experience that whenever the power will go, we have to telephone ten times, and only after one hour somebody will come; otherwise we have to sit outside the house because we cannot sit in the street, we cannot sit inside the house. The wrong is with the corrupt administration of DESU. The soft attitude of the Central Government is leading to the non-payment of monies due to DESU. They pre-suppose that ultimately the Central Government will pay. So, what is required is a strict checking of electric meters at everybody's oplacc, including the indstrialists, hotels, commercial undertakings, and all types of consumers, because they are not above all these things. They arc also a party to this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Shrimati Kamla Sinha. Your party has got four minutes.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA (Bihar): Sir. I will try to finish wihtin the time limit. A detailed debate has already taken place. I don't want to take much of the time of the house. I would just like to say a few pointed things. As regards the

power sector, I feci, there has been a lot of mishandling in many of the projects. Yesterday I had asked a question, Question No. 205, which was about a power project in Himachal Pradesh. Unfortunately, it was not taken up. The World Bank had given Rs. 7,500 crores for this project. It did not take off even after 13 years. There are many projects like this which have not taken off, which are still in the pipeline. For example, in my own State of Bihar there is a project, Kocl Karo. Many years have gone by. But it is still in the pipeline. Nothing is coming up. Because of all ihese things there is a power shortage in the whole country. Delhi is just a manifestation of what is happening in the country. Many of our colleagues have already spoken about what is happening in Delhi. I am not going to repeat them. I would just like to say one thing. In the Ninth Five Year Plan the Planning Commission has projected the need at 45,000 megawatts. But we arc short of this. When Mr. Nara-simha Rao was the Prime Minister, he had privatised the coal-mines and it was expected that captive power plants would be there in many areas so that power shortage would be eliminated. It also did not happen. The result is that we see power shortage everywhere in the country. It is true that India has got a lot of water resources and that it can generate hydel power. There is only input cost. The maintenance cost is very low. The Power Minister is a very energetic person. He should allocate more money for hydel power projects because the running cost of hydel projects is very low and they arc environment-friendly also. Liter-ally speaking there is a vicious circle involving, the National Thermal Power Corporation and the State Electricity Boards. The State Electricity Boards supply electricity at a subsidised rate for domestic use and for agricultural use. They arc not able to pay the coal prices to Coal India. The NTPC has, sometimes, to write off all these things. There is always a large demand for electricity. Since there is a shortage of electricity we cannot get electricity. Even in Delhi there is a lot of electricity shortage and water shortage. So, there is a kind of vicious circle. Now we should try to rationalise the use of water as also the use of electricity. I don't know how you arc going to do that. Recycling of water for domestic use has also to be done. I agree with my colleague who said that a time would come when there would be no water. There will be a scarcity of water and mankind cannot live without water. So, we must plan properly and we must conserve our underground water. Our underground water level is also going down. There are a lot of reasons for that Ground water is not being preserved properly. All these areas need to be taken care of. There is a need for comprehensive approach for conserving running water and underground water. Then recycling of water needs to be done properly and there should be proper use of electricity also. Thank you.

श्री ओम प्रकाश कोहली (दिल्ली): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैम केवल बिन्दु पढ़ देता हूं जिसमें कि दो मिनट में अपनी बात पूरी कर सकूं। दिल्ली की बिजली की मांग और आपूर्ति के अंतर को देखते हुए जेनेरेशन की लंबित पडी हुई योजनाओं को जल्दी से जल्दी पूरा किए जाने के लिए प्रभावी कदम उठाने चाहिए, नंबर एक। नंबर दो ट्रांसमीशन और डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन सिस्टम बहुत पुराना हो गया है, सड़-गल गया है और अपर्याप्त है। इसे ऑग्मेंट किया जाना चाहिए और इसे मॉडनाईज़ किया जाना चाहिए। नंबर तीन, दिल्ली विद्युत बोर्ड का प्रशासन बहुत कमज़ोर, भ्रष्ट्राचारग्रस्त और लालफीताशाही के शिकंजे में फंसा है, इसमें आमूल परिवर्तन करने की जरूरत है। नंबर चार, लोकल फॉल्ट रिमूवल सिस्टम बहुत कमजोर और इनएफिशिएंट है, इसे मज़बूत किया जाए और चोरियों को रोका जाए। और आंतरिक संसाधन तथा राजस्व में बढ़ोत्तरी की जाए। नंबर छः कॉमर्शियल पॉलिसी को लिब्रलाइज़ किया जाए जिससे लोगों को बिजली का अधिकृत कनेक्शन आसानी से मिल सके। नंबर सात, दिल्ली विद्युत बोर्ड की कुछ एक्टिविटीज़ को प्राइवेटाइज़ किया जाए और अंतिम बिन्दु यह है कि इंटरनल रिसोसेंस की उपलब्धता बढ़ाई जाए जिससे कि ट्रांसमीशन और डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम को मॉडनाईज़ किया जा सके और मेंटेनेंस सिस्टम को मजबूत किया जा सके। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA (Haryana): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I rise to put up the case of Haryana which is a very tiny State. Geographically, it is situated at three sides of Delhi. Sir, the present Government thinks that Haryana is an outhouse of Delhi. Whenever they need water and power, there is overdrawal of ' water and power from Haryana. I would like to refer to a statement made by the Minister of Power in reply to Question No. 201 on 10th June, 1998. The answer is:

> "(b) The details of MW of power supplied to Delhi from the Northern Grid during the month of May, 1998 are enclosed as Annexure-1. Delhi received power supply up to 1605 MW from the Northern Grid during the month of May, 1998 against its maximum entitlement of 1420 MW.
>
> (c) Delhi has generally been drawing more power than the entitlement from the Northern Grid to meet its peak demand."

From where is this power coming? It is coming from Haryana. Delhi is drawing water from the Bhakhra Dam. Similarly, the Yamuna water is meant to serve Haryana. Delhi is drawing the Yamuna water more than the entitlement. Even Delhi is drawing the Bhakhra water in which they have no share. Delhi is drawing maximum water in the name of Capital. Therefore, Haryana is the worst sufferer Sir, the people of Haryana are a part of this country. There is a total darkness in Haryana. There is no drinking water available in towns. Farmers are unable to sow paddy and cotton crops.

The reason is that there are three plants on which hundreds of crores have been spent but they are pending for the last 20 years. One is the Yamunanagar Super Thermal Plant for which the land was acquired in 1990. A lot of money was spent. Everything was cleared, sanctions were got from everywhere. But it has not taken off. Five or six years ago, the then Prime Minister laid the foundation for the Gas Thermal Plant at Faridabad. But nothing has been done on that despite repeated requests. Similarly, an atomic energy plant was proposed in the Jind District at Narwana. For the last 10 years, nothing has been decided about it. Therefore, I request, be kind to Haryana, be fair to Haryana. We don't even need any kindness. But be fair. The Congress-led Government was giving more power at the time of crisis in Haryana. On the other hand, this Government is treating Haryana very shabbily. The Government of Haryana is so cruel that they have plunged the entire Haryana into darkness. There is no power for domestic use. There is no power for agriculture. There is no drinking water in the towns.

श्री राधकिशन मालवीय (मध्य प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, पानी और बिजली, यह दोनों विषय बड़े महत्व के विषय हैं और शॉट ड्यूरेशन के माध्यम से इस सदन में इसकी चर्चा हो रही है। मैं संक्षेप में अपनी बात रखना चाहता हूं। पीने के पानी की समस्या इस देश के सभी प्रदेशों में करीब-करीब है मगर मध्य प्रदेश का जो मालवा क्षेत्र है, वहां पीने के पानी की बहुत कमी आज उत्पन्न हो गयी है। जो पानी का जल स्तर है, वह करीब चार सौ पांच सौ, छः सौ फुट नीचे चला गया है। जहां पहले कुंओ की खुदाई होती थी तो 25-30-40 फुट नीचे पानी भरपूर मात्रा में रहता था मगर आज गरमी के सीजन में पूरे मालवा क्षेत्र में एक भी कुंए में पानी नहीं है और जितने से पचास परसेंट ट्यूबवेल सूखे पड़े है। मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि पीने के पानी की ओर विशेष ध्यान दिया जाए और विशेषकर मध्यम प्रदेश के मालवा क्षेत्र में। महोदय, जल स्तर को कैसे बढ़ाया जाए, उसके लिए पुरानी पद्वति जो थी, उसमें गांव में तालाब रहते थे, वह जो तालाब बनवाए थे वह इसलिए बनवाए थे कि बरसात का पानी उसमें स्टोर हो और उससे कुओं और ट्यूबवेलों का जल स्तर बना रहे । इसलिए तालाबों का निर्माण किया गया था। मगर आज दिखने में आता है कि तालाब बहुत कम मात्रा में रह गये है। लोगों ने उनके ऊपर अतिक्रमण कर लिया है, कहीं खेती कर रहे हैं। मगर रैवेन्यू रिकार्ड मेम तालाब शासकीय भूमि है।

मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि यदि हमें जल स्तर को बढ़ाना है तो तालाब का वापिस जीणोद्वार करना पड़ेगा, उनको वापिस बनवाना पड़ेगा ताकि बरसात का पानी उसमें स्टोर हो सके। सर, मेरी विशेष मांग यह भी है कि नर्मदा नदी में पानी की पर्याप्त मात्रा है तथा नर्मदा नदी का पानी मालवा क्षेत्र में लाकर वहां की जो चम्बल नदी है .....(व्यवधान)..... उसमें अगर उसको छोड़ा जाए तो जल स्तर व सिंचाई की सुविधा उससे हो सकती है। मान्यवर, दूसरा विषय बिजली का है मैं केवल आधे मिनट में खत्म करता हूं। आज बिजली की स्थिति ऐसी है कि उसकी कोई समय सीमा नहीं रहती। जब चाहे बंद हो जाती है, जब चाहे चालू हो जाती है। दिल्ली में तो हम यह रोज देखते हैं मगर विशेषकर जो हमारे देश के ग्रामीण क्षेत्र है, उनकी हालत बहुत बदतर है। और जब पावर कट करते है तो समय ऐसा निर्धारित करते हैं जब शाम का समय हो । 6 बजे से लेकर 10 बजे तक। जब गांव का किसान अपने खेत से काम करके घर आता है तो वह अंधेरे में खाना बनाता है और अंधेरे में ही खाना खाता है। मेहरबानी करके शाम के समय में तो बिजली कटौती नहीं होनी चाहिए, उसको चालू रखना चाहिए।

जहां तक खेती का सवाल है उसके लिए बिजली पर्याप्त मात्रा में में दी जाए ताकि किसान अपना अधिक से अधिक से अधिक उत्पादन उससे कर सके। मान्यवर, बिजली का संबधी इसी तरह से मवेशियों से भी होता है क्योंकि नदियों में और तालाबों में पानी नहीं होता है तो मशीन पम्प द्वारा स्टोर किए गए पानी को मवेशी पीते है मगर बिजली की शार्टेज होने की वजह से, बिजली के समय पर न आने की वजह से मवेशियों को पीने का पानी उपलब्ध नहीं हो पाता है। इसकी हैंडपम्प से पूरित नहीं हो पाती है। हैंडपम्प से कब तक पानी इकट्ठा करके उनको पिलाएंगे? ट्यूबवैल से वे पानी इकट्ठा करने की जगह को भरते है और उसमें से मवेशी पानी पीते है। मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि ये दोनों विषय बड़े महत्वपूर्ण है इसलिए प्राथमिकता के आधार पर सरकार को इसे अपने हाथ में लेकर पीने से पानी और बिजली इन दोनों में सुधार करना चाहिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री जॉन एफ फर्नाडिस): प्लीज मैडम, काइन्डली टेक टू मिनिट्स, मिस फिडा टोपनो।

कुमारी फिडा टोपनों (उडीसा): सर, बिजली और पानी दोनों बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हैं और इनकी जरूरत भी बहुत महसूस होती है। ज्यादातर दिल्ली और बड़े-बड़े शहरों की प्रोब्लम्स के विषय में डिस्कशन हुआ है। मैं अपने रुरल एरिया से संबंधित जो प्रोब्लम्स है उनके विषय में कुछ कहना चाहती हूं। बिजली की चोरी होती है उनको रोका जाना चाहिए। अनेक बार ट्रान्सफोर्मर जल जाते है। रिपोर्ट करने पर 3-4 व 6 महीने लग जाते है ठीक होने में जिसके कारण रुरल एरिया में लोग प्रोब्लम में पड़ जाते हैं। शाम को बिजली की कटौती हो जाती है अभी मेरे भाई बोल रहे थे कि वे कैरोसीन लेना चाहते हैं तो उनको कैरोसीन भी नहीं मिलता है। जिसके कारण पढ़ने वाले बच्चे पढ़ नहीं सकते हैं। बहन लोग खाना नहीं पका सकते हैं। इसलिए विशेषकर रुरल एरिया के लोगों को सारे समय बिजली उपलब्ध होनी चाहिए। जब पीने के पानी की सुविधा नहीं है, नदी नहीं है और पावर भी नहीं है तो इस प्रकार की प्रोब्लम होने के कारण रुरल एरिया की बिजली पर विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए। पीने के पानी, सेफ ड्रिकिंग वाटर के लिए गांव-गांव में ट्यूबवैल्स लगाये गये है लेकिन अनेक समय खराब हो जाते है, उनकी समय पर मरम्मत नहीं हो पाती है। रनिंग वाटर और तालाब धूप के दिनों में सूख जाते है तो तालाब के भीतर ट्यूबवैल्स लगाने से भी लोगों को सुविधा हो सकती है। विशेष कर जितने सांसद हैं और हम लोगों का जो एम0पीज0 फंडस मंजूर हुआ है वह एक करोड़ था अब दो करोड़ हो गया है सभी सांसद अपने-अपने एरिया में ट्युबवैल, पोन्ड और बिजली के लिए गांव-गांव में थोडी हैल्प कर देने से उनको बहुत सहूलियत मिल सकती है।

इतना कहकर मैं समाप्त करती हूं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES): Mr. Kumaramangalam, arc you going to reply for both power and water?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM): I will answer for power and the Urban Development Minister will answer for water. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Vicc-Chairman, Sir, I am obliged to the hon. Members for their participation in what I consider to be a very important issue. In fact, water and power arc co-existent, arc inter-rclatcd. As rightly pointed out by many Members water has come to become the basic amenity which man requires today in modern life. We have a situation in India, that in the Eighth Five Year Plan we had planned for 30,500 megawatts of additional capacity but we could only add 16,500 megawatts as additional capacity

during the Eighth Five Year Plan which is 46 per cent less than the target and it is 23 per cent less than what was added in the Seventh Five Year Plan. The cause was really a transition situation. When we move from a situation where power generation was totally in the State sector to permitting private generation in the power sector, we came to a situation where private generation took time to pick up but the investments in the State sector were slowed down. So, we had a situation where wait and expectation of the private generation to catch on did not really work as per the hopes and aspirations. As has been rightly pointed out by many speakers, the situation is quite serious.

I must compliment the former Power Minister, Mr. Alagh, were it not for his efforts to concentrate in detail on increasing the the PLF we would have had a much worse position.

The target for actual generation was 400 billion units of power. We achieved last year 394 billion units which is without adding the additional capacity to the extent expected. When we were short by 46 per cent, by sheer improvement in plant load factor, we managed to achieve a situation where targets were met. The requirement, of course, was much more than the target. The requirement was in the region of 447 billion units. Therefore, we are short by about 11 per cent in picking power. When we work it out in megawatts it really works to about 7,393 megawatts. It is quite a lot of power when one looks at it from the point of investment. A policy decision was taken at a particular period of time to go in for short gestation projects. Suddenly an idea dawned that nephtha is a good alternative. It is a clean fuel until gas is made available. We will use naphtha. Unfortunately, naphtha is volatile both in price and in volume and in actual handling. But it is a fuel that is being chosen. Today, to roll the clock back would be difficult but many of these projects which have been given a few linkages still move quickly. The major reason for the short gestation not being short as it should be is because of the financial condition of the State Electricity Boards. The amount of escrow that they are able to provide and the securitisation that they were able to give is not enough to really meet the expectations. It is our estimation that about 10,000 megawatts is the maximum capacity for which they can give a escrow which covers both public and private sectors. That being so, the question really is how fast they would pick up 30,000 megawatts of short gestation and other projects which have been sanctioned by the State Governments. We have targeted 40,000 megawatts in the Ninth Five Year Plan draft. It is not yet finalised. The shortage was predicted at about 47,000 megawatts.

It is my belief that we need to take a three-pronged strategy, and it is not any 'young man in a hurry' sort of situation. I am a little surprised that Dipankarda called me a young man because I thought he was my age. I called for the Who's Who and looked at it and found that he does have a decade over me. That is why, I suppose that a decade justifies the 'young' and the 'old'.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: It is the state of mind.

SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Then should I call him an old man because it is a state of mind? I think that is a little unfair on him. I think his mind is also young.

If I may submit, I believe we need to be in a hurry. Caution, I undetstand. Dipankarda mentioned caution because he is a trade unionist. I noticed, his education is also that of electrical engineering. The cause for caution from your side is justified because if I was in your place and I was a trade unionist, I would also call for caution, because I know as much as you know. I have been the President of DESU Employees Union for quite a long time.

The truth of the matter is that in the late '80s the matter was quite under control. It could have been managed. Today we have slipped from 25-26% T&D to 46% T&D. It is not 49%. It is quite a slip. It shows that not only has our inefficiency in the quality of our distribution and transmission system gone down, it also shows that our vigil has gone down and theft has increased. It no longer can be called theft. It can be called in much stronger terms. We are in a serious situation in Delhi. I don't think we have time to sit back and search for solutions in terms of discussions. It has been going on endlessly. If we don't act, we are not going to be in a situation where we even have an opportunity to act. I only wish in the late '80s strong, strict action had been taken in DVB or DESU. I think we would have had a much better day today, if that was so.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: How does that justify your assurance?

SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM: The assurance that I gave was very clear and the assurance was that Delhi will get all the power that it requires from the Northern Grid. And I hope the word was 'may' and I hope that the non-availability of power will not be a reason for power-shedding. In fact, the Chief Minister sat with me during the Press Conference. We had a discussion. We drew up a charter of many points, which was agreed between parties. What was agreed on behalf of the Ministry of Power, I am happy to say that the Department of Power will carry that out. There were some Slippages and outages due to the Northern Grid. But I must congratulate NREB officials that after many years discipline has been brought in the Grid and we have been able to maintain 49.5 cycles frequency from almost the middle of May, which was the worst time.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Are you trying to imply that the Delhi Government's part of the deal was not kept?

SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I did not imply that. I can speak for my behalf. Nor will I reply on behalf of others.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: You are referring to a discussion. One part of the deal was kept by you. What about the other part?

SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Can I come to the other part? I will come to the other part in a little more detail, with the information that I have been given, because our job is much less. Our job was to provide the additional power they required to hold the frequencies —-take over three substations, handle them from the power grid, put in a certain amount of shunt capacitors We have carried those out. The job that was given to DVB was to bring in discipline whithin its own system and to ensure that the generation that was there, they could keep it up. The situation is, as I have mentioned yesterday, that, to be accurate, 635 MW—it is not 665 MW because one small generator tripped—is the rated capacity and they are only producing 260 MW.

The shortage of power generation is one major issue why we have the problem. We also had some problems on reactive power, the shunt capacitors, etc. In addition to that, what was normally expected was a load increase of about 9 per cent this year. We have had a sudden increase of over 13 per cent in demand due to excessive heat. The lopsided planning of the past has created the situation. When such sudden increases take place, the peak demand rises viciously causing failure in the system. I think Dipankarda would understand as to how that happens because he is an electrical engineer; I am only in the electronic arena. We deal with 5 volts and 12 volts. He deals with 22000 volts and 44000 volts. If I come to the point, I must say that the DVB did a good job in the constraints that they have, a history of so much of theft and T&D losses. They have registered cases which would surprise the Members, and

in fact, pleasantly Surprise the Members. They have undertaken a lot of activities which were not undertaken in the past. About one hundred policemen arc; available—I mean, 100 security personnel—30 policemen, 76 CRPF, etc. Actually, the total number of cases they have checked this year is 17,210. Thefts detected arc 8,426; FIRs lodged are 3,558 and in the last 15 days, they have recovered Rs. 453 crores only by that. They recovered this amount only on account of theft. Actually, when a chap steals, it is difficult to get money from him. It is not easy, but they have done very good recovery. I must compliment them for this. I wish the same thing was done for the last five-six years. We would have had a far better situtation now. Strict action with support from local administration and Central Government would have solved the problem earlier. I know you* supported many Governments in the past. The previous Government had your support. I am not saying that it is Alagh Sahcb's fault at all. In fact, Alagh Saheb did his job. I must say I was lucky that I have become a Minister after him. The way he has worked on the PLF has helped me to contribute. In the last two months, we have been able to increase the amount of power availability. In fact, 3,719 million units of power has been made available additionally *vis-a-vis* May, 97 and May, 98. It was possible because of the trend of keeping the PLF up and we brought in the policy of transferring power, evacuating power from your surplus Eastern region. Everybody has been commenting about the PLF being low in the Eastern region. It is low because backing up is done. It is not low because the plants are run inefficiently. There is surplus power in the Eastern region, but the evacuation of power from the Eastern region to other regions is limited due to not broad enough, if I may use the word, band-width of coverage of inter-regional links where you could push a lot of power. So, what you do is, when your frequency goes up, you back up your generation. When you back up your generation, your PLF drops. It is not the fault of the Eastern region. Everybody says that Southern region is 70% and above, Eastern region is 49%. The truth is, if we can evacuate power from the Eastern region today, I could say, I would do even better. Wc have done only 800 megawatts in the last two months. I think, if we proceed on the line of having a national grid where we can evacuate power efficiently and smoothly, many of our problems can be addressed. We have 100 megawatts of power going from the Easter region all the way to Tamil Nadu; We have 100 megawatts of power going to Karnataka; We have 100 megawatts of power going to Kerala.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA (Karnataka): Karnataka has not agreed.

SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM: No, no. It is not that he has not agreed. He says, "I am paying for that. I did not pay for Rs. 230 crores in the past. I am paying for the present." He is getting the power, all right. The point is, the time when the grid frequency slips, he doesn't get it. Otherwise, he gets the power normally. He has admitted it in the next day's statement, if you are talking of the power Minister of Karnataka. I would like to point out that the problem that we arc facing can be addressed only if we discipline the SEBs in terms of both technology, management and integrity. And here is where Trade Unions need to play a proper role. Dipankarda can call me any name, "young", "in a hurry", "old", "stale". I am willing to accept every curse if CITU can stand by and tell those who are indulging in collusion over there that they are not going to support them. I am sure, he will do that. The day you do that, I am certain that I can address the problem quickly and we can solve this problem. In addition to that we need to address very clearly to increase our PLF. The first immediate step that we need to do is to increase the PLF, improve our transmission systems by putting up shunt capacitors so that reactive loads can be handled and improve our system of transmission and

distribution. In addition to that we have to sec that whatever little additional eapaeity comes — one of the short gestation projects can come up is added to give additional capacity. In the long run, it is my belief that power is one arena where you need to go into larger capacities to reduce cost. The cost of freight has increased and I believe pcrsonnally, my Government believes that it should encourage pithead units for coal plants. Somebody did mention about fly-ash and disposal of fly-ash. When I was Minister of State for Science and Technology earlier, I had moved a mission which has given a very good report on technology but the implementation of fly-ash technology is not easy. But once you have it in the pithead, disposal of fly-ash safely is possible. In addition to this we need to have mega projects to ensure that these mega projects conic up and give us sufficient power and make it commercially viable and work it out. I am not in a rush there. I am in a rush only to bring in certain discipline. Sir, actually the situation is that we have SEBs owing almost Rs. 19,500 crores on their account. We have brought in Regulatory Commission to bring in some discipline. When the Bill is moved by me I shall say what is there in the Bill, etc. Many doubts have been raised, about generation, issues of T&D losses, inefficiency, etc. These would be addressed by the regulator and it is provided in the Act. It is not an act which has been brought in a hurry. It is not an act born of our Government, it is an act which has been born out of a lot of discussion between all parties, all the State Governments and many power Ministers. Across the party lines, there has been an agreement on the need to have regulators, on the need to give guidelines, on the need to ensure discipline, transparency and clarity in the power sector. The consumer needs a fair share now. Enough is enough. It has been a great veil behind which a lot of people made a lot of money. Now it is time that the common man gets power at a reasonable and fair price. I think, it is towards that we should work. I am sorry that I have not been able to answer all the suggestions. I hope when I get my chance to reply on the Electricity Bill, I would be able to address a few of the issues that have been raised. Thank you very much.

SHRI MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir my colleague is right when he said that water and electricity arc inextricably mixed up and they were mixed up during the course of the debate that has gone on here. Ultimately, Sir, it is water which sometimes produces power and it is power which runs my pumps which produce water and runs plants which purify water. Sir, power docs not exist if something goes wrong with water. While it is legitimate to club water and power together, at some stage they have to part. But, the parting is the result of unfortunate ------ I may not call it unfortunate ------ but Constitutional position. Power is my friend's subject. He directly deals with it. That is why he could make up a wonderful presentation today and could resolve the doubts which the House has about the manner in which the power scarcity is being dealt with.

But, Sir, my problem is that water is not my subject. ...*(Interruptions)*... Water is purely a State subject. And Mr. Chavan who initiated the debate was conscious of the this and he told us, 'Please do not take a technical position, because this is a State subject, you will not deal with it.' Now, Sir, I have never been technical. Even my training as a lawyer has told me that ultimately it is better to grapple with substance than to deal with thc...(Interptions)...

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Kerala): You are the Minister of Urban Development and urabn development needs water. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: My friend is right and that is why, at least, I have taken this intiativc and I am

prepared to enter into this debate and share my thoughts with the House. Sir, basically my problem is one of substance and not technically because I am not in a position to tell you since I have no control, I do not administer, I cannot tell you why a particular shortage is arising in State "A' or State 'B' as to what are the causes of the shortage in that region, whether adequate steps arc being taken to meet that shortage, whether there is corruption, whether there is any negligence, I cannot answer all these problems and I am not able to throw intelligent light upon this problem. Sir, while I was listening to the debate I kept wondering that the gentlemen, my colleagues in the House, who have participated in this debate arc men of great experience, of greater experience than I am and I did not expect merely a lurid description of the problem. What I expected was that the hon. Members will have done home work and given me the benefit of their wisdom and told me as to how to solve this problem. Sir, after all, this problem has not arisen during the lastg six or seven weeks --------- maybe, for a longer period -------- since we have been in power on this side. This problem has existed for so long and a debate has been going on national scale for the last so many years.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKERJEE (West Bengal): If you give mc three mintucs, I can give you the solution to this problem. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Sir, if I had dealt with this problem, probably I would have given an answer which I got in the Lok Sabha the other day. We were discussing the problem of housing, shortage of housing. Sir, it was a pleasing experience for mc that seven or eight Members got up and said that ultimately we arc only grappling with the symptoms and we arc not dealing with the core problem. The core problem is the galloping rise of population about which nobody is prepared to do anything. Sir, my friend is an cconmist. Malthus who was an economist had talked of the growing disparities between population and loud supplies. Even that economist never applied his mind to water. He talked of food and other things, but, he never talked of water. Even that great economist never imagined that ultimately the politicians' nightmare would ultimatley get into the field of water. Sir, what we are facing today is the politicians' nightmare in the field of water. This can only be dealt with by the Slates. If my friends have been suggesting here that I must do this -------- Kamlabahen said "You must plan to sec to it that somehow water wastage does not take place, 1 want to ask ---------- in fact, if she had been here, I would have asked her ------ as to how you would expect to do it. I have no power; 1 have no Constitutional power to deal with this problem. 1 cannot legislate unless all the States combine together, meet together, or at least two or three or more States combine together and ask me to legislate under article 252 of the Constitution just as we have done in the case of Land Ceiling Act. If that Kind of a thing were possible. I think a Central uniform policy is possible. Sir, the greatest problem is that in 1987 this nation grappled with this problem and you formulated, what you call, the lower Basins Policy.

Now, if you have all the water resources of this entire nation harnessed for the common good of the entire nation, and each State considers itself a part of an economic unity called India, and not a separate State by itself, only then this problem can be solved. But, has any hon. Member concerned himself with the problem why this whole policy which was formulated in 1987 with such fanfare, has not been put into effect? It has not been put into effect, apart from the lack of political will, because we arc busy with other problems. All the time we arc busy with some lesser problems. This kind of a major problem we do not grapple with but the basic problem has been that this country, unfortunately, does not have the necessary fiscal resources. After 1987 wc

could not do anything about water. In 1991, you had embarked upon a new economic venture. You had gone into a new economic direction. Arc you prepared to apply the new economic policies now to the utilisation and exploitation of our total water resources? That is the only solution to the problem. And, Sir, if all parties meet together, I am prepared to call a conference of all parties. I am prepared to call a conference of all State Ministers to be able to evolve some kind of a solution to this complex water problem. But, Sir, merely reiterating this problem again and again in more and more rhetorical and lurid terms does not solve the problem. It only accentuates the anguish, the pathos and tragedy but it docs bring us nearer to the solution. The solution is, we must put our heads together, devise methods of raising finance to be able to deal with this complex and tremendous, complex and vast, problem. That can only be done with co-operation from all sections of the House. Sir, I need a little encouragement from all sections of the House to embark upon some new ventures in this field and more than anything else, you must empower me to be able to advise the States.

Sir, one last word. I am; somewhat. Constitutionally concerned at least, with Delhi. In Delhi, the position is slightly different because though the State Government in Delhi has the power to deal with water, yet, the Centre has not given up its Constitutional power to legislate on water. Therefore, technically, I have some jurisdiction in the matter so far as Delhi is concerned ...*(Interruptions)*... But again technically ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I wanted to say only one thing: in the City of Delhi, though you experience shortage these shortages which you are experiencing are really the result of mal-distribution. There is enough water. The maximum needs of water here are 800 million gallons per day — 800 MDC or 800 MDG whatever you call it — but 600 MDC are being produced. Sir, 600 million gallons of water is available. The Government of Delhi has been dealing with this water shortage on a war-footing. Liturally, they have dclccarcd a war against water scarcity and I am glad to report to you that we are on the way to solving the problem of shortage of 200 MDC of water; we have commissioned tankers. Sir, we have commissioned 400 to 500 tankers to supply water in the remote areas of Delhi; pumps have been built; reservoirs are being set up and new plants have already been commissioned and they will be completed in the course of one or two years. I have no doubt that at least in the city of Delhi we will be able to solve the water—shortage problem for all time to come. I hope, all the States where there is shortage will be able to solve the problem—I cannot even vouch that there is shortage because I have no control even over statistics. For example, one hon. Member today spoke about Rajasthan shortages. When we asked for information from the State Government, Rajasthan has reported that there is 100% no scarcity of water. Every person is supplied with water. This is the situation. I cannot even get proper statistics from the States. So, please empower me so that I should be able to deal with the problem. Thank you. ..*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): What do you want to ask? Do you want to seek any clarification?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH (Gujarat): Sir, may I seek a very small clarification? In the National Development Council, meeting on the Ninth Five Year Plan, we have accepted that provision of drinking water is a basic minimum service. Now, the hon. Minister, Mr. Jethmalani, has given a very good speech and has talked about a number of relevant problems. But, is it being suggested that this is being given up; that you are going to have some liberalisation policy? I am totally confused at the end of all this. He said that there are no statistics, there is no

this, and there is not that, and he wanted to be empowered... *(interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Mr. Alagh, you make your submissions to the Chair.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH: Sir, I only want this clarification. Is the Government committed to drinking water as a minimum need as is defined in the Approach Paper to the Ninth Plan or has the hon. Minister made a new policy announcement that he is going to do something else? At least, this much he should make clear to us.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Sir, no Government consisting of human beings can have any other opinion except that this is a basic necessity. It is a basic necessity. It is a basic service. We arc committed to that. But, I am talking of how we satisfy that basic need of yours.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सनातन बिसि): कोहली जी, आप क्या बोलना चाहते थे?

श्री ओ0पी0 कोहली (दिल्ली): उपसभाध्क्ष जी, दिल्ली में पानी की समस्या के जो और करण हैं उसमें एक कारण मल्टी ऑथोरिटी सिस्टम भी है। माननीय मंत्री जी, दिल्ली में डी0डी0ए0 ने कई अंडरग्राउंड वाटर टैंक बनाए हुए है। लेकिन वह एम0सी0डी0 को हैंड ओवर नहीं हो रहे हैं जिसकी वजह से उन वाटर टैंकों का उपयोग नहीं हो रहा है।

I know one such water-tank in Trilokpuri area which has been constructed by the DDA and the same has not been handed over to the MCD. Since it is not being commissioned, it is not being used. I think, there might be many more such water-tanks which should be handed over to the MCD so that the people get water. I request you to kindly look into this.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Certainly, we look into this.

संसदीय कार्य मंत्री (श्री मदन लाल खुराना): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, सरकार द्वारा कलकत्ता उच्च न्यायालय के अप्रैल 29, 1998 के निर्णय के संदर्भ में की जाने वाली कार्रवाई का विषय कल लोक सभा में कई बार उठा था, यहां भी यह मामला उठा। डा0यू0एन0 विश्वास, संयुक्त निदेशक, सी0बी0आई0 ने यह अपील सैंट्रल एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव ट्रिब्यूनल के आदेश के विरुद्व दायर की थी। सरकार द्वारा कल लोक सभा को बताया गया कि इस मामले में कानूनी राय लेकर सदन को आज सूचित किया जा जाएगा। मैंने आज लोक सभा में सूचित कर दिया। सभापति महोदय ने मुझे यह आदेश दिया है कि यहां भी मैं सूचित कर दूं, इस सदन में भी सूचित कर दूं कि डा0 बिस्वास के विरुद्व विभागीय कार्रवाई क्वेश करने संबंधित कलकत्ता उच्च न्यायालय के निर्णय के बारे में कानूनी राय उपलब्ध होना बाकी है। नियमानुसार सुप्रीम कोर्ट में अपील करने की कार्रवाई अगस्त 12, 1998 तक की जा सकती है। सर्का इस मामले में कानूनी राय उपलब्ध होते ही जल्दी से जल्दी निर्णय लेगी।

श्री मदन लाल खुराना: मैंने यह कहा कि कानूनी राय लेकर ही इसके बारे में कार्रवाई की जाएगी।

INFORMATION TO THE HOUSE

Regarding Disciplinary Action Against Dr. U.N. Biswas, Joint Director, C.B.I.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Now, we will take up the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Bill, 1998.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Kerala): Sir, I wanted to know whether they arc going in for an appeal?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): This is only for the information of the House.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: What information?

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal): What information? Are you going in for an appeal in court?

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, I want to seek a clarification...*(interruptions)*... What we want is... *(interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTAN BISI): There cannot be any discussion on this.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, there is a ruling by the hon. Chairman ...*(interruptions)*... Let me complete.....*(interruptions)*.. asked for all the facts. The hon. Chairman, said, "I will come to you."

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): I know that. Just, let mc say. ..*(interruptions)*... Please, take your scat.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Now, the hon. Minister has come making a statement that legal opinion would be taken. He cannot get precedence over the hon. Chairman. ..*(interruptions)*... The hon. Chairman has to make a statement here getting all the facts.. .*(interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Mr. Ravi, Please take your scat. I was present in the House when the Chairman said this thing. He said that he is examining all the papers and he himself will state all these things. Since he has made a statement on the samt matter in the other House.... *(interruptions)*...

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Sir, this is only for the information of the House

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): This is only for the information of the House. The Chairman is seized of the matter.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH BILL, 1998

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Now, we will take up Statutory Resolution on National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Second) Ordinance, 1998. Shri Gurudas Das Gupta, not present; Shri Gaya Singh, not present; Shir J. Chithranjan, not present. So, the Resolution is not moved.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): Mr. Vicc-Chairman, Sir, with your permission I move:

> "That the Bill to declare the institution known as the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research to be an institution of national importance and to provide for its incorporation and matters connected therewith, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration"

THE VICE-CHAIRNAM (SHRI SANATAN BISI): The Motion is moved.. .*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA (Kernataka): Will he not mention the salient features of the Bill?. ..*(interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): O.K., Mr. minister, please make a mention.

DR. A.K. PATEL: Mr. Vicc-Chairman, Sir, in our country there arc a large number of educational institutions imparting diploma and degree courses in pharmacy, but there is no institution of excellence in pharmacy, as available in other fields, like engineering, technology, medical education, etc. The approach and the concept of NIPER from the very beginning has been to set up an institute of excellence to provide leadership in the field of pharmaceutical education, research and training. NIPER is expected to go beyond the conventional and traditional methods of teaching. The wide spectrum of objectives and activities of NIPER necessitates a degree of autonomy particularly in respect of developments and adoption of the education and training curricula. Such an autonomy and flexibility as available to the Institutes like the IITs, can be given only if NIPER is declared an Institute of national importance and is empowered to adopt its own curricula and award degrees and fellowships, etc.

The main objectives of the institute arc: (i) Tonning up the level of pharmaceutical education and research by training the future teachers, research scientists and managers of the industry and profession; (ii) creation of national centres to cater to the needs of the pharmaceutical industry and other research and teaching institutes; (iii) collaboration with Indian industry to help it meet global challenges and (iv) study of sociological aspects of drug use and abuse and rural pharmacy, etc.

In order to enable the institute to start its academic programmes for the session 1998-99, an Ordinance called the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Second) Ordinance, 1998, No. 9 of 1998 was promulgated on 23.4.98 to declare the institution known as the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research to be an Institution of National importance and to provide for its incorporation and matters connected therewith. The NIPER Bill, 1998 seeks to replace this Ordinance.

The Bill which was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 28th June was passed by the Lok Sabha.

The question was proposed.

DR. Y. RADHAKRISHNA MURTY (Andhra Pradesh): You speak first. *(Interruptions)* Sir, let there be no disturbance. I rise to support the Bill, but at the same time, I would to make a few observations. The concept was there since 1953. As given in the introduction to the Bill, it has been pending with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education since 1988. A Society was set up in 1991 and it was referred to the Standing Committee on Petro-Chemicals in 1997. It was presented to the Lok Sabha in 1997. Now it has come to this House in 1998. Sir, this idea has been moving since 1953 till now like the proverbial swadeshi Indian Bullock Cart. It has taken 45 years for this concept to come to this House.

I am not blaming this Government; at least I thank them for having come this year. How the Government of this country is moving in this matter, I would like the Members to make a note of it. Secondly, Sir, the objective of setting up such a National Institute on Education and Research, in the pharmaceutical sector is highly laudable, especially when the MNCs have been dominating this field of pharmaceuticals all over the world and particularly in our country, and exploiting the people of our country to the hilt. We need self-sufficiency in pharmaceuticals; we need self-reliance in pharmaceuticals; and we need the pharmaceutical research, which at present is not to be expectations, nor to our requirements. Hitherto the concentration was only, on what was jocularly referred to as reverse engineering.

Now, Sir, it is a regime of intellectual property rights. There is a tightening noose around the neck of our country, almost all the third world countries, by these intellectual property rights regime and this everyone of us knows. What is not clear in this Bill is this:

1. What are guidelines for admission?
2. Whether all the States will have the representation due to them?
3. Whether reservations will be ob served in admissions to the institu tions?
4. Whether you are going to promote what you have been doing in other universities, as self-financing courses?

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): in the Chair.]

If that were not to be the case then the economically disadvantaged are being discriminated against and they will suffer a lot. I would also suggest to the Government to set up this institution not only in one place but to have such institutions on the regional basis, as we have IITs in this country.

My next point is, Madam, please refer to page three of the Bill. I have to put a pointed question. Why should you have four members from the Pharmaceuticals

— in whatever name it may be — on the Board of Directors? Four Members from the phamaccutical industry, some of them cx-officio and only one member from the Ministry looking after the pharmaceuticals. I think it is not very much different from the earlier ones. I know need the cooperation of industry for research in pharmaceuticals. But, Madam, firstly, we should be careful and should not give scope for indirect intellectual property piracy.

8.00 P.M.

.... even by the domestic industry, *vis-a-vis* the scientists who are working in the institutions. Secondly, they may influence the type and the direction of research for instant profits by the pharmaceutical industry.We have the best example. There is always a possibility of profit-oriented products coming out, like viagra, which is catching the eye of so many people.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Kerala); There arc many more.

DR. Y RADHAKRISHNA MURTY: There won't be drugs produced, to meet the requirements of common diseases which many people arc getting today in our country; for example, malaria, tuberculosis, filariasis, infective hepatitis, scrum hepatitis, etc. So many such diseases are there. Even today, we don't have the correct answers to these diseases. On the other hand, we have plenty of medicines in the market, coming from multinational companies as well as from domestic companies, targeted against the diseases which affluent people get — hypertension, heart diseases, cancer, AIDS, etc., etc.

Unfortunately, Madam, research, so far, in our country has not been concentrated on diseases, or, drugs which are meant for treatment of the common diseases, which the people are getting in this country. I fear, with the involvement of a very large number of representatives of pharmaceutical companies in the Board of Directors, the whole direction of the research may be directed to the drugs which arc useful for the rich and the affluent.

Then, there is only one representatives from the Ministry of Health. It is very strange. That too, he is an official — the Drug Controller. There are two from medical institutions. But, strangely, these two would be heads of institutions. It is a pharmaceutical institution. I would have understood the rationale if some professors of a pharmaceutical subject were represented on the Board of Directors. What is the point of having the heads of institutions? They may be some surgeons or biochemists or some such persons who may not know anything about pharmaceuticals.

I would request the Minister concerned to go into these matters and rectify these defects, if possible.

I also feel that since this is to be a university, or, something like a university, a prominent educationist should also be there on the Board of Directors.

One more point I would like to bring to your notice. Madam. We are living in what is called a 'pharmaceutical jungle'. We have about 60,000 pharmaceutical products, a dubious luxury which even the USA or the UK does not enjoy. I recall the most erudite and very useful report placed in Parliament in 1974. It has been forgotten. Probably, destroyed. I do not know because we are not getting any copies now. I am referring to the Hathi Committee Report which had made every valuable suggestions, as far as the pharmaceutical industry is concerned.

The Hathi Committee had talked about an essential drugs lists. This is supported by the World Health Organisation also. The Hathi Committee had said, that we need only 117 drugs for the treatment of ailments. Just 117 drugs. But there arc about 60,000 formulations in the market today. Even the World Health Organisation has said that we need only 236 drugs for most of the diseases which are prevalent in the country.

The Committee had also talked about abolition of brand names. Every drug now has a brand name due to which the cost of the drug is double or even treble. A Third World country, a poor country, like ours cannot afford such a luxury.

Thirdly, the Committee had talked about removal of non-essential drugs like tonics which are costly and which give no benefit to the patients or the other persons. It induces a lot of hope that a , person would become more healthy and all that. Madam, millions of rupees are wasted on these drugs called tonics, but there is no benefit at all to the patients or the other people.

The Hathi Committee had also talked about removal of what are called irrational combinations of drugs which are very much there even today in the market. But, Madam, unfortunately, somehow all these advices and directions were not taken into consideration, and even this Report was almost destroyed.

One important recommendation that the Committee made is to constitute, what we call, a National Drug Authority. Probably, a National Drug Authority would have gone into at least some of these matters and it would have exercised some sort of control over this jungle. Even this has not come to the mind of our rulers so far. I think at least now this Government will take up this particular aspect of the recommendations. I sincerely request the ruling side to go through the Hathi Committee Report again. It is a wonderful Report. Many of the third world countries have accepted it. Our neighbour, Bangladesh, has accepted it. But we did not accept it due to, I am afraid pressure from multinational companies because, if you follow all these recommendations, multinational companies' role will be minimised in this country. Therefore, Madam, the Ministry should have a close look and a second look at this Report. It should also take into consideration some of the points I have raised in finalising this Bill. I request you also to see the fate of our pharmaceutical industry today. I will take just one minute on this.

See how the IDPL, one of the prestigious pharmaceutical company in our .country, is languishing today, almost closed. The other day we saw hundreds of people coming from the IDPL, from five places, and demonstrating just in front of our gate. It is not only that the company has been almost closed, but the workers have not been paid their wages for the last three months. It is rather shameful. Not only that. My friend was referring to the Bengal Immunity, a prestigious company. I know it from my young days. When I was a student, the Bengal Immunity was there. Its drugs were very very popular. It was a very prestigious company. Now they say that the production has been suspended. Also look at the Smith Stani-street Co. which has also been closed. These are all public sector companies. This is the fate of the public sector pharmaceutical industry today that we are seeing. We have almost opened our doors to multinational companies so that they can just plunder this country, plunder the poor people of this country.

I recommend this Bill. I laud this Bill. It is a very laudable Bill, I say. But, at the same time, people have to take many things into consideration before finalising this Bill.

Thank you, Madam. Thank you very much.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Madam, the Minister, while introducing the Bill, has said that this Bill had been considered by the Standing Committee. I want to know categorically from the. Minister whether he has considered all the recommendations of the Standing Committee and whether all the recommendations of the Standing Committee have been incorporated in the Bill.

Secondly, the Ordinance was issued on April 23, saying that the academic season was commensing and that there would be admissions. Today is the 11th of June. Have the admission been completed? If

you have resorted to the Ordinance, it should have been urgent. In this span of one-and-a-half months, has the Institute started functioning, are the admissions over and how many students have been admitted? We want the figures.

Secondly, we are giving it the status of a National Institute. The Institute was in existence. How was its performance? You have talked about the future. You are today recognising it as an institute of national importance. Have you studied the credential of the Institute? How has it functioned? There is no report before us. If there is an institution already, a society registered in 1980, what are the activities of that institution? How has it fared? Docs it deserve the status that we are giving it today? There is no explanation from the Minister. You have compared it with IITs etc. Are you making it an educational Institute? You arc further going up to considering it as a deemed university. Just like the health universities, is it going to be a pharmaceutical university?

If that is your intention, look into your Governing body rules. Why have you clubbed it and filled it up with industry. Will it be a university? Will it be an educational institution? If they are interested in the pharmaceutical industry, have you filled it up into the Governing body. What is the difference you have brought about? Why are you doing to this institution. All these years it was under your Ministry. You felt that this is a technical subject. It should be thought as an education. So, as a university you arc bifurcating it. But, have you built in the knowledge into that? No. Same department plus industry. Sitting in the Health Ministry, you are doing the same job and you have transferred and recognised it as an institute of national importance without even looking into its performance, as to what were its activities, how it has faired; whether it deserves the status of an institute of national importance. These are my queries. Mr. Radhakrishna Murty has asked other questions which I wanted to ask. Sir, I wanted pointed answer to my queries.

DR. A.K. PATEL: Madam, as the hon. Member says, the Bill was delayed by 45 years. So, there was no haste in bringing forward this Bill. The Standing Committee's reports have been taken into consideration. Shri Radhakrishna Murty's suggestions have also been considered. The institution does hot differentiate between drugs for the poor and drugs for the rich. Drugs for the diseases arc same. I have personally seen the institution. They arc doing a good research work on malaria. It is a disease of the poor, who stay in open doors and are exposed to mosquito bites. So far as technical persons are concerned, they arc from the pharmaceutical industries. They know the subject well. It is governed by so many people. So, there will not be any undue favouritism from the industry.

SHRI ,H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Madam, not a single point has been answered to my pointed queries.

DR. A.K. PATEL: 19 students have been admitted to Ph.D. programme.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Madam, I had put my pointed questions and he has not answered. He has answered only one question. If the Ministry docs not want to answer, what can I do?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): The question is:

> That the Bill to declare the institution known as the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research to be an institution of national importance and to provide for its incorporation and matters' connected therewith, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): We shall now take Up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 37 were added to the BilL

Clasue 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

DR. A.K. PATEL: I move:

"That the Bill be passed."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Price Policy For Copra and Raw Jute

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): Madam Vice-Chairperson, I want to announce the- minimum support prices for Copra and raw jute.

/. Minimum Support Price for Copra for 1998 Season.

The Government of India has fixed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Fair Average Quality (FAQ) of Milling Copra at Rs. 2900 per quintal and for FAQ variety of. Ball Copra at Rs. 3125 per quintal for 1998 season. This marks an increase of Rs. 200 per quintal in MSPs for each Milling and Ball Copra for 1998 season over their respective MSPs for previous year. The increase in MSPs is expected to induce the copra growers to invest more and raise the productivity and production of copra.

The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) would continue to act as a nodal agency to undertake the price support operations for copra.

//. Minimum Support Price for Raw Jute for 1998-99 season.

Similarly the Government of India has also fixed the Minimum Support Price for TD-5 grade of raw Jute for Assam for the 1998-99 season at Rs. 650 per quintal. This marks the highest ever increase of Rs. 80 per quintal over the MSP announced for previous season. The MSP for other varieties and grades of raw jute will be fixed in the light of normal market price differentials as compared to TD-5 grade.

The Jute Corporation of India (JO) would continue to act as a nodal agency to undertake the price support operation for Jute for 1998-99 season.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Before me there is a list of Members who would like to seek clarifications.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Madam, what about the statement on the cyclonic storm in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Your name is there for seeking clarifications on the statement regarding price policy for copra and raw jute; and statement regarding cyclonic storm.

SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PIL-LAI (Kerala): Madam Vice-Chairperson, the minimum support price fixed for copra is far below the cost of production of copra. This will not solve the problems of the peasantry. This will only aggravate the problems of the peasantry. The Kerala Agricultural Production Commission have done some homework. They have come to the conclusion that the cost of production of one coconut will be Rs. 5.53. On the basis of this calculation, actually 677 nuts are required to make one quintal of copra and other processing expenses. So, the cost of one quintal of milling copra will come to Rs. 4,160. Now, the Minister has fixed it at Rs. 2,900.

This is far from the cost of production. As far as ball copra is concerned, eight months are required for making ball copra. Actually, if you take into account the interest at the rate of twelve per cent for eight months, the entire cost of one quintal of ball copra will come to Rs. 4,373/-. That also is far below the cost of production. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether' the minimum price is fixed taking into consideration the cost of production of coconut in the present year. I also want to know from the hon. Minister as to how the cost of production is calculated.

If you look into the producitivity level- of different States, you will find a wide variation. Even though Kerala started the coconut cultivation and the name of the State of Ke'al? is synonymous with coconut, now, the other States have started producing it—Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra, Orissa and West Bengal. Because of the root wilt disease prevalent in Kerala, the productivity of coconut is far below the national average. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether his Ministry has taken the all-India average into account while fixing the support price. The all-India average will not solve the problem of the pesantry because of the low level of productivity and also because of the presence of the root wilt disease. There is one more important thing. The price is fluctuating and a lot of import is there. Copra is being imported and edible oil is also being imported. But all these imports are at the time of the harvesting season. Why? This is done to benefit certain sections of traders and industrialists. The import is not made at the time of lean season. If import is allowed at the harvesting season, what is the effect of it? The effect would be that the price will further fall down. This is what is really happening. This is also aggravating the problem of the peasantry, particularly, the coconut peasantry in Kerala. The hon. Minister is well aware that the coconut cultivation is intimately connected with the life of Kerala, the economy of Kerala. Will the Government pay special attention to the problems faced by the coconut peasants in Kerala? Thank you.

SHRI M.P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI (Kerala): Sir, as has been pointed out by my colleague, Shri Ramachandran Pillai,'we are pained to say that the support price fixed by the Government is not sufficient. It is a pity that the problems of the coconut farmers of Kerala are not given serious consideration by the Government and they are remaining as they were. The demand of the poor coconut cultivation of the State of Kerala remains a cry in the wilderness and a proper attention is not being paid to the problems facing the coconut farmers. The coconut cultivation is the backbone of the economy of Kerala.

Now our request to the Minister is that at least Rs. 5,(XXy- is to be fixed as the minimum support price. Then only, in the present circumstances, the coconut cultivators of Kerala will be able to stand on their own feet. Madam, the cost of production has gone up. The expenditure has gone up. Now it is not as easy to produce coconut as was in the olden days. The labour cost is high. There are a number of other problems; I am not going into the details. I am just taking two minutes more. I would like to emphasise two points. One is, we have always been requesting for making a provision of subsidy for coconut farmers. In various other fields of agriculture, subsidy is provided by the Government. I do not know why the Government is deaf on this demand. It is very important for the economy of Kerala. It is important not only for Kerala, but for many other Southern States also. We are emphasising Kerala. As is already opined by our hon. Member, Kerala is very much connected with conconut cultivation. Even the very name, the Kerala culture, every thing, is very much related with coconut trees. So, the subsidy has to be provided.

Another thing I would like to emphasise here is, an intentional propanganda is going on against coconut and coconut oil at the international level. There are some vested interests working behind it, that coconut oil is causing cholesterol, that it is harmful for health. It is a very intentional propaganda. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is aware of this propaganda being made at the international markets, at the international level, against our own products, especially coconut and coconut oil. Instead, they are trying to import other artificial oils. People in the State of Kerala are using this coconut oil from time immemorial, and such diseases have

never been reported. Now also, it is not scientifically proved. So, my last and the foremost request to the Minister is that something is to be done urgently against the international propaganda in respect of our coconut and coconut oil. Thank you, Madam.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Kerala): Sir, my colleague, Mr. Ramachandran Pill ai, has explained the whole thing in detail. I don't want to repeat the same. I expected of the hon. Minister, Shri Som Pa!, that, as a friend, he would make us happy, but unfortunately, he had disappointed everyone from Kerala! Sir, I want to have a clarification. What is the rationale behind fixing this price? Our experience shows that there is no relation between the cost of pioduction and the fixation of price. Once you fix a price, you should fix it somewhere near the cost of production. But unfortunately, it is never fixed near the cost. I know, the intention behind that is to protect the coconut growers who are closely related with the economy of Kerala. Lakhs of people are dependent on that. The only point I am making is, you fix the price a little higher, a remunerative price.

The import of Copra or its trading shall not be allowed in certain seasons because that can fluctuate the market. Sir, you are monitoring the system to maintain the pricclevcl. It is inevitable in certain areas. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will look into the matter and (a) increase the support price and (b) maintain a remunerative price level, by prohibiting certain unwanted methods adopted by the industrialists which can pull down the price.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA (Karnataka): Madam Vice-Chairman, Kerala copra is different and my copra is different I don't know as to what actually happens. We have discussed the Budget in the last two days, saying that it is farmers' Budget, it is in favour of farmers, it is a rural Budget, and everything. We have used rituals, we have used big words in the last three days. Som Pal is the champion of farmers, agriculturists' I don't know what happened. Somebody said, "This is not agriculturists Budget. This is *Babus'* Budget"

I don't know what it is. He was an agriculturist when he was sitting here. Now he has become a babu. He has gone by the advice of the babus. Actually support price is given to stop distress sale and help the fanners. I don't know whether the babus have verified the market rate as on today. If the support price is far below the market price, can it be called support price? If you announce the support price, the rates will fall down because the Government recognises only that rate. This is the logic behind it. I don't know on what basis, the Government has come to this conclusion. Today's market rate is more than what you have announced here just now. Mr. Ramachandran Pillai has given the calculations of individual conconuts in Kerala, kerala produces coconut by irrigation. They do it by natu al rains. They are lucky. They are getting enough rains. I come from a dry area, a drought-afectcd area, where we grow coconut by lift irrigaiton taking out water from 200 feet or 300 feet. You have increased the price by Rs. 200. Ours is ball copra which is used for eating purposes, for your *idli-chatni.* Mr. Kumarmangalam has gone away. His *sambhar* becomes more tasty when he uses copra. There is a diffcience between the copra of Kerala which is used for producing oil and the copra of Karnataka which is used for edible purposes, in dishes. The-rate difference is only Rs. 200. It requires eight months' natural drying. I am sorry, you have taken charge newly. As *a* farmer, you have rightly sought the opinion of the farmers. But I think the babus have overruled the farmers' opinion and advised him from the babus' angle. This is what has happened. There is one more point which 1 want to bring to your notice. Will you stop imports? Don't give support puce. Don't give subsidy. But stop the imports. Why is there this

double standard? If we have not done it, it is a mistake. Why don't you do it? Stop the improts. You withdraw the subsidies or the support pirce. Automatically the faremrs will get the benefit. On the one side, you import and create competition and, on the other side, you give support price and subsidies. Please stop it. You have made a mention about the 1998 season. In the case of copra we have two seasons. I don't know whether the babus know it or not. The next season is coming. I hope by the next season the farmers' views will be reflected in your support price as far as possible. You have picked the Agriculture Ministry as an expert in the agricultural field. But if you go by the advice of the babus, God save the farmers.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Do you think that Mr. Som Pal is going to be overruled by the babus?

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: You were yourself a Minister. So, I don't want to disclose. We had discussed the IDPL.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): I was saying something real. Is it possible in the case of Mr. Som Pal?

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: He has to get accustomed.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal): He is saying that Mr. Som Pal is himself a babu.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: No, no. I don't agree. Don't put your words in my mouth. Mr. Som Pal is a farmer. But he is unable to overrule the babus. That is the difficulty. I request him to come nearer to the market price by the next season, if he is attempting to help the faremrs who are in distress. You don't know that today coconut is sold at Rs. 2. Farmers are crying. Faremrs died in Vidarbha in Maharashtra. Cotton farmers died. Now the coconut farmers will go to the extent of committing suicide, if the Government does not take note of these things. Therefore, I request the Government to revise the support price announced today on the basis of facts and the reality.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Madam, the four speakers who have spoken before me have talked about copra which is mainly produced in the southern part of the country. I am talking about the prices which have been annoucned for raw jute. Jute is produced in West Bengal, Orissa, Assam, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar. Fifty lakh people are working in the jute industry and 40 lakhs of them are producers of raw jute and ten lakh people are associated with jute processing. If we multiply 50 lakh by five, 2.5 crore people are dependent on jute. The jute prices affect the life and livelihood of a vast majority of the people in the eastern part of India. That is the situation. I have been following this announcement of CACP for the last so many years. But I have never understood how they work out the cost of production. I think there is a lot of confusion in it because raw jute is produced under different ecological conditions in different parts of the country, madam, they do certain amount of averaging. But how they do the averaging, I do not understand, may be, they collect figures from three or four different samples. How exactly they do it, it is not clear to me. But whenever the prices are announced; I talk to the cultivators. They give an estimate which is totally different from the estimate which is prepared by the Ministry. This time also the Kisan Sabha in West Bengal has worked out an estimate. Their estimate comes to between Rs. 900/- and Rs. 1000/- and that should be the minimum. I communicated this estimate to the Minister. Then a delegation consisting of the Kisan Sabha representatives also met the minister. I understand that the West Bengal Government also made some estimates. Their estimate comes to Rs. 850/- or something like that. But the price which has been mentioned here is Rs. 650/-.

On what basis has this price been given? Infact, one of the terms of reference of CACP says that it should also cover some margin, a minimum cost of production. There should be some margin so that they can get sufficient return. Then only they will be interested in investing in this particular crop. My feeling is that Rs. 650A- is nowhere near the cost which our cultivators in West Bengal have estimated. This figure would be creating a lot of dissensions in West Bengal. There is no doubt about it. I would like to know from the hon. Minister. On what basis has he calculated this price? Is there any standardised procedure for averaging estimates? In different parts of the country there are differnt ecological conditions. Unless it is done, unless the figures are beyond any doubt, it is extremely difficult for us to talk to cultivators about these prices because they would say that the prices which have been announced were far lower than the actual price at the ground level.

Then the second issue is this. After the price is announced, do the farmers actually get that price? Our experience is, they don't get it. The Jute Corporation of India intervenes in the market after a very long time. JCI intervenes at a time when raw jute is not in the hands of the actual producers, but it is in the hands of middlemen. So it is the middleman who gets the benefit from whatever price that t has been declared. Moreover, there are few centres where raw jute is sold. When the JCI goes to those centres, the amount of money they carry is exhausted within a very short time. Many of the cultivators who come there, cannot sell their jute to the JCI. They sell their jute to the middleman at a very cheap price. Madam, there must be some coordination between CACP and JCI. If JCI does not purchase raw jute in time then the whole purpose of having a minimum support price is defeated. This is what we experience year after year. We find that the raw jute producers do not get a fair deal. But some other people are getting benefit out of it.

My next point is about the prices which are quoted by CACP and then they are made official by the Government. In some of the years, as my friends have pointed out, we find that the CACP prices make no sense because the market price is much higher. But thev don't bother about it. JCI has a large manpower and a very huge staff. Why should it remain idle in those years? Why should no: JCI also participate in these activities? JCI can have one objective of mimimum support price. Another objective could be where the mimimum suport objective has been achieved to work commercially so that JCI remains viable, its apparatus is fully utilised and its jute factories also get jute whenever they need. So, this kind of issue has not been properly handled by the Government, I think. But there has to be a much better coordination between the jute grower and the factories who are requiring jute. Through JCI, there can be a possibility of holding a buffer stock which can be sold to the factories, maybe some factories which are smaller and all that who cannot get jute in those, times when the prices are too high. So, I would very much like the Minister to respond to these two points. First is, how the price has been calculated? What is the mechanism? What is the procedure? Is the Minister himself satisfied that the price given to the agriculturists has been calculated fairly and propoerly and that the figures are beyond doubt? Secondly, how can one ensure that there is a link between the price declared by CACP and the price actually obtained by the farmers at the grasroot level? This is also not happening.

SHRI SOMPAL: Madam, I thank the hon. Members for taking keen interest in the prices of copra and jute. Really, it is a sad state of affairs. Terms of trade have always been against the farmers. During the whole period of British rule- the policy of the Government was to supply cheap food to the organised and vocal sections ot population and cheap raw

material to feed British industry in India for making semi-finished goods back in England and selling them back to India after value-addition. To some extent the policy has been continued since 1947. If we have a look at the historical graph in terms of trade, I find that if I take 1980-81 as the base year till last year 1995-96, rather a year before, the terms of trade have been havering between 84-94 per cent as compared to 100, barring three initial years of 70s, i.e. 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74. Then it was in the vicinity of 100. This implies a skewing of incomes in agriculture as against other professions by 12 to 12 1/2 per cent every year. This is halving of rural incomes received by agriculturists evry 7-1, 7/2 years. Through this subtlety of price mechanism, on a large scale, resources have been transferred from the rural sector to the urban sector because it is price mechanism which decides the dcvalution of fruits of all enterprises including agriculture. The basic problem has been that agriculturists, the farmers are a disorganised or unorganised lot. They do not have the bargaining capacity. Their holding capacity is low. The gestation period between investment and receiving of income at harvest time creats and complicates farmers' problems because all investments, and domestic consumption expenses, the meter is always on and when the harvest arrives his tolerance level gives way and he is forced to make a distress sale and this has been taken advantage of by unscrupulous traders and exploiters. This was repeated even after independence. But, for the first time in 1986, the system of mimimum support prices was instituted in India. A calender has been fixed since then and fortunately I had been associated with that exercise, though I was not a Member of Parliament then. The then Finance Minister, Shri V.P. Singh was approached by a delegation, headed by me, and I supplied a paper and then he came out with a long term price policy which was placed on the Table of the House, I think on 13 November, 1986, fixing this calender and 22 commodities have since been identified to provide support.

In case of copra this exedse started quite late. The issuec which have been raised by the hon. Memoers are very important. It shows their conerr about farmers' plight. I must confess to them candidly that the situation is far from satisfactory, even in the present year, so far as MPs are concerned.

CACP has adopted a formula. It generates data to calculate the cost. There is a complete formula. If the hon. Members are interested, I can give the details thereof. There are certain steps which it has identified—cost Al, A2, Bl, B2, CI, C2, and C3. These are the steps. The direct input costs, the imputed rental value, the labour cost, the imputed labour of family and certain other costs, including imputed rental value—not the rental value paid to the Govermcent, but the other value—but interestingly, excluding the interest on price or vaiue of land. This is a big and serious lacuna. There is a dichotomy that BICP, which calculates the industrial costs, adopts the value invested by way of fixed capital and working capital, while in the case of agriculture this is excluded. But this is a matter or policy. We have inherited a legacy, including baboodom. And it is very difficult to undo these things in a day. But we are moving towards a direction and I must inform the august House and all the Members that the hikes affected in these cases arc really substantive. In case of jute, this is the highest ever hike, not only in absolute terms but in percentage terms also. And my Communist friends were supporting the earlier Government, they accepted these prices for the past two years. I have got that report. And I don't know whether anybody raised any objection.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: On this point, let me point it out. No matter which party had been in power, we had been making these complaints year after

year. So, it is not simply the BJP Government that we are raising the issue with.

SHRI SOM PAL: Madam, the question is not settled by making complaints. Our hon. friend, Mr. Jethmalani, was saying something, describing that symptomatology doesn't help, but what is important is whether you have protested to the extent of having an action taken on the phenomena.

I have the record. As compared to 1993-94, the 1994-95 rise was only by 4.4%, the 1995-96 by 4.3%, the 1996-97 by 4.1%, the 1997-98 by 11.8%, from Rs. 510 to Rs. 570. And in all these years, the interesting thing is that the prices recommended by CACP were announced by the Government as they were. In 1994-95, CACP recommended Rs. 470 and the Government announced Rs. 470. In 1995-96, CACP recommended Rs. 490 and the Government announced Rs. 490. In 1996-97, CACP recommended Rs. 510 and the Government announced Rs. 510. In 1997-98, CACP recommended Rs. 550 and the Government announced Rs. 570. That was a rise of Rs. 60 and a hike of 11.8%. This year, CACP recommended Rs. 625 and we have announced Rs. 650, that is, a rise of Rs. 80 and we have hiked it by 14%. So, this is a record. There is a greater problem in case of jute I will revert back to copra later; I am reversing the order. Dr. Biplab Dasgupta has rightly pointed out that West Bengal has $^{7}0$ per cent share in the area and 77 per cent in production of jute. And the productivity is also the highest in case of West Bengal. The CACP formula is based on the steps which I have enumerated. It generates its own data and it docs average-out and the weightage average of CACP for this year was Rs. 670. Though the recommendation made by it was Rs. 625 because the CACP takes reference to certain other factors, like international prices, the market price movement during the last year, the price support operation which can be provided, the end-product and demand and supply naturally. Sc, having reference to all these things, the CACP recommended Rs. 625, but we have raised it to Rs. 650. The West Bengal Government has asked, I think, for Rs. 810/-, but I don't have the details whether they asked it abruptly giving cost break-up or breakdown. The crux of the matter is whether the real support is provided to the farmers or not. Unfortunately, whenever the prices have gone below the minimum support price in the past some years, the JCI has failed to provide its support. That is the unfortunate part and the reasons are more unfortunate and painful. The JCI was asked to start this operation in 1972, but not a proper Ordinance or say, notification, was issued. It was issued *only* in 1980. Then it became statutory. Till then it was taking up these operation in a small manner. But, since then the JCI has developed a good infrastructure to pro-vide its support. They have established market centres; they were mopping up in the market a good amount of jute and they had been effective in certain areas. But for the past several years, Rs. 57 crores which have been incurred by JCI by way of losses while providing support to ths farmers in this market intervention operations, have not been reimbursed by the Textile Ministry. At some point of time, I think in 1992-93, a decision was taken, surprisingly, by the that the Jute Corporation of India would not sell in the market, all its stocks would be procured by the NJMC which is another public sector company. The jute which has been supplied by the JCI to NJMC has not been paid for by the NJMC and the arrears amount to Rs. 210 crores. Therefore, the capacity of the JCI stands totally hampered. All these operations have totally got paralysed, but we are taking this up. This has been discussed in the Cabinet. Coming back to the legacy which we have inherited, this is the story. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs had taken a decision not once but several times that these arrears should be reimbursed, but no action has been taken between one department of the and another. So, this is of greater importance.

So far as your question of higher prices in the market and the rationale of declaring a minmum support price lower than the market price is concerned, I must make it clear..... *(Interruptions)*..... Just a minute. I am just responding to that

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: My question was not that My question was in those years when the prices in the market were much higher, why did you allow JCI to engage in commercial activity?

SHRI SOMPAL: Who am I to allow? They don't have the resources to do that.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: You should provide that.

SHRI SOMPAL: I have undertaken that we will rectify the situation. I am just describing the situation which we have inherited. But sometimes, prices do go up and the minimum support price is not the maximum price which the farmer is supposed to receive. The farmer is supposed to receive much more than the minimum support price. This is the lowest cutting edge. Below that the prices should not be allowed to go. This is the job of the JCI. This is the objective of any support operations. This is the situation but in the present situation as we have inherited, this was the best we can do and we will see that these arrears are cleared and JCI gets empowered to undertake operations in a more meaningful manner and they do come out with support Coming to copra, unfortunately, CACPdoes not generate its own data to calculate but it depends on the data supplied by two State Governments, Kerala! Government and Karnataka Government. Again, the parameters and the reference are demand and supply, international prices and other things. Last year, the prices had been quite high and this year they are just slightly above last year's mimimum support price-About problems like rootwilt disease, unfortunately, no solution has yet been found even by researchers. They are working on it. The only programme which they have identified and which they have tried to put across is that all the trees suffering from rootwilt disease should be undone and replantation, fresh plantation should be undertaken. But, there has been some demand from the farmers, not from the Government, for coming out with a rehabilitation package. This is what is needed in case c: copra. This exercise of evolving scientific-economic formula has been given to the kerala University. They are coming out with a report soon and I think, by next year we will have a scientific-economic formula according to which the cost of copra will be decided and cultivation and producing copra can be undertaken. So far, there is no scientific and economic basis. Broadly, these cost parameters are supplied by Kerala Government and Karnataka Government and the CACP goes by that formula.

So far as import is concerned, copra is not imported in large quantities into India, not even coconut oil. Other oils, yes, are imported. But this is, again, a matter of policy to be looked into. The palm-oil and other edible oils are being imported but what is the impact of those edible oils and coconut oil? it is different. But, there is a need for allaying the apprehensions on account of health impact of coconut oil. Mr. Samadani has pointed out something and it is a very important thing. The Institute of Nutrition at Hyderabad and other institutions can take up this project and we would see that the impact is studied scientifically instead of indulging in any propaganda which is not based on scientific research. Again, the minimum support price declared in the case of copra has been more than the CACP recommendation. In the case of milling copra it was Rs. 2, 860, we had decided to make it Rs. 2,900 and in the case of other, Rs. 3,125 in place of Rs. 3,100. This was the best which we could do and in this case Nafed, as I have already remarked, will be required to conduct support operations and Nafed is being asked to enter into market operations because the price stand is showing a decline and Nafed is also being asked to stock copra and not off-load it into the market because the impact will be nullified. This is the maximum we could do and we have undertaken. Thank you, Sir. *(Interruption).*

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Madam *.....(Interruptions).....*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Mr. Vayalar Ravi, he has given a reply to all the questions and queries raised by the hon. Members. I have to proceed to the Statement by the Minister regarding the situation caused by the cyclonic storm *.....(Interruptions).....* There is one more business. It will be difficult *(Interruptions)* We have to pass the Bill. *(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER: It can even be taken up after five o'clock tomorrow. *(Interruptions)*

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR . (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, the Home Minister has gone to Gujarat to assess the situation. Let the hon. Minister come tomorrow and give a statement on that. , We can know the latest situation. *(Interruptions)*

9.00 P.M.

सदन के नेता (श्री सिकन्दर बख्त): मैडम, स्टेटमेंट आज करवा लें, क्लेरीफिकेशन मैम्बर्स कल पूछ लें।

†**شری سکندر بخت:** میڈم اسٹیٹمنٹ آج کروالیں۔کلیریفیکیشن ممبر کل پوچھ لیں۔

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Why? *(Interruptions*

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Because it is already 9 O' clock. *.....(Interruptions).....*

' SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR (Gujarat): More than three thousand people have died in Gujarat *.....(Interruptions).....*

SHRI SOMPAL: I am ready with the statement.....*(Interruptions)* .....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): According to the Business listed before me, I find that there is a statement to be made by the Minister on cyclone in Gujarat *.....(Interruptions).....* Thereafter, the Members may seek clarifications. *.....(Interruptions).....* I have seven names before me .....*(Interruptions).....* Thereafter we & have to take up the Electricity Regulatory Bill, 1998. *...(Interruptions)* .....

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Tomorrow *.....(Interruptions).....*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (Delhi): Why tomorrow? *.... (Interruptions).....* This should be taken up today itself *.....(Interruptions).....*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): I have a supplementary agenda also before me *.... (Interruptions).....*

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Madam, us far us cur party is concerned.....*(Interruptions).....*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Dr. Dasgupta, please take your mike .....*(Interruptions)* .....

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Madam, as far as our party is concerned, we would like a discussion on the cyclone in Gujarat .....*(Interruptions)* ..... This is a very serious issue. A large number of people have been killed.

SOME HON: MEMBERS: Why? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Because it is already 9 o'clock. *....(Interruptions)* .....

SHRI RAJUBHAI .A. PARMAR (Gujarat): More than three thousand people have died in Gujarat .....*(Interruptions)* .....

SHRI SOMPAL: I am ready with the statement.....*(Interruptions)*.....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): According to the Business listed before me, I find that there is a statement to be made by the Minister on cyclone in Gujarat .....*(Interruptions)*..... Thereafter, the Members may seek clarifications.....*(Interruptions)*..... I have seven names before me.....*(Interruptions)*.....Thereafter we have to take up the Electricity Regulatory Bill, ... 1998. ..... *(Interruptions)* ..... SOME HON. MEMBERS: Tomorrow *(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (Delhi): Why

†[ ]Transilteration in Arabic Script

tomorrow?.....*(Interruptions)*..... This should be taken up today itself.....*(Interruptions)*.....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): I have a supplementary agenda also before

There should be a statement on this issue. If Mr. Advani can provide some more information tomorrow, it would be fine. So, now we should have a discussion on the cyclone in Gujarat and the Members who will be participating in this may be more careful about the time constraint. They can limit their comments.....*(Interruptions)*..... But, this is to be discussed first .....*(Interruptions)*..... As far as Electricity Bill is concerned, we have some serious reservations about it. We do not want this to be moved today.....*(Interruptions)* ..... I would suggest that we may discuss tt tomorrow .....*(Interruptions)*.....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Now, what is the decision of the House? .....*(Interruptions)*.....

श्री विष्णु कान्त शास्त्री (उत्तर प्रदेश): मैडम, आज इलैक्ट्रिसिटी बिल हो जाये और चूंकि माननीय लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी जी कल आएंगे, तो वह विस्तार से कल सूचना दें। हमारे मित्र बिप्लव बाबू चाहते हैं कि उनकी बात पर विचार हो तो ठीक है एक-साथ विचार होना चाहिए कि यह गुजरात का विचार कल हो जाए और इलेक्ट्रीसिटीबिल पर आज हो जाए। ...(व्यवधान)....

SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Why should it be delayed?.....*(Interruptions)*..... Thousands of people have died in Gujarat.....*(Interruptions)*.....

श्री विष्णु कान्त शास्त्री: अगर हों तो दोनों आज ही हो जाएं, चाहे रात के 12.00 बजे तक बैठें। ....(व्यवधान).... दोनों आज ही करेंगे।...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Five thousands people have died in Gujarat.....*(Interruptions)*..... Why are you postponing it for tomorrow? .....*(Interruptions)* .....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Let me hear this side also .....*(Interruptions)* .....Please sit down.....*(Interruptions)*.....

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa): Madam, you go by the List of Business .....*(Interruptions)*.....The name of the Minister is not there in the List of Business.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Mr. Fernandes, I have the Revised List of Business before me.....*(Interruptions)*.....

SHRI JOHN. F. FERNANDES: Madam, this cannot be divided like this.....*(Interruptions)*.....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): I have already said about the Electricity Bill.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Madam, I would like to suggest that the listed agenda should be taken up as it is. Let there be the statement and clarifications thereon. We fixed $2'/_2$ hours for this purpose in the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee ..... *(Interruptions)* .....

It has been decided by the Business Advisory Committee ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. BIPLAB DAS GUPTA: We have serious objections to it ... *(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SAROJ KHAPARDE): Dr. Biplab Das Gupta, Mr. Salve says something else ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE (Maharashtra): Madam, I do not want to put the Government in any difficulty. We arc here to push it through. But, it was agreed by our leaders that we will sit until 10 O'clock. There are two matters before you. One is the statement on situation caused by the cyclonic storm in Gujarat and the other is the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Bill. Members on my side arc very highly agitated on the Gujarat situation. They want the statement to be made, and that itself will take about 50 to 55 minutes. Then, after 10 o'clock it will be very unfair to take the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Bill. It is a very important matter. So,

that can be discussed tomorrow so that we can have some degree of seriousness ... *(Interruptions)...*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): If the House so desires, I do not mind. Sompalji, please make your statement on the Gujarat situation. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री विष्णु कान्त शास्त्री: मैडम, ...(व्यवधान).....

उपसभाध्यक्ष (कुमारी सरोज खापर्डे): शास्त्री जी, एक सदस्य के कहने से तो नहीं होगा, सारे सदन की जो राय है, वही होगा। ...(व्यवधान).....

No, no, this is not fair. Mr. Minister, please make the statement.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Situation caused by the cyclonic storm in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): Madam, I seek leave of the House to make a statement on the situation caused by the cyclonic storm in some parts of the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. A deep depression was formed on June 5, 1998 around 600 km. South-west of Goa which crossed over to Gujarat coast near Porbandar in the morning of 9th June, 1998 (0900 hrs (1ST). The Indian Meteorological Department had constantly been monitoring the movement of the system and was in regular touch with concerned State Governments. Thirteen cyclone warning bulletins were issued between 5th and 9th June by IMD through AIR and Doordarshan.

According to the latest information received from the Government of Gujarat, 637 persons have lost their lives in the districts of Kutch (428), Porbandar (19), Jamnagar (135), Junagadh (5), Bhavnagar (1), Amreli (1), Banaskatha (3), Surat (1), Bharuch (2), Rajkot (37), Valsad (4), and Nalsari (2). 850 persons received injuries and were hospitalised. 104 persons are missing. Due to wind velocity of 70 to 150 km/hr., the microwave tower collapsed in Probandar city resulting in disruption of telecommunication system. Many electric poles, telephone poles and trees have fallen. National Highways are operating normally. There have been some reports of road blockage and damage in remote areas. 64 relief camps.have been opened and over 27,000 persons given shelter in the districts of Kutch, Jamnagar and Junagadh. The State Government is taking all necessary rescue and relief operations in the affected areas. According to the Government of Rajasthan, 5 persons have died in Barmer district and one in Jallorc district. 4 persons have reported to be injured in Jallorc district. Some parts of the districts of Barmer and Jodhpur received rainfall between 125 to 240 MM, causing damage to electric lines, uprooting about' 150 poles and some trees, besides killing some heads of cattle.

According to the Govt. of Maharashtra, two fishermen are reported missing in Ralnagiri district.

Two columns of Army in Jamnagar and three columns in Porbandar assisted the civil authorities in rescue and evacuation of people from marooned areas, providing medical aid and distribution of food packets. 5 helicopters have also been positioned at Jamnagar and Bhuj. The petroleum installations like pipeline, tanks have also suffered considerable damage in Kandla. The Ministry of Petroleum has constituted a Task Force to monitor on daily basis the restoration of operations at Vadinar/Kandla and ensure maintenance of uninterrupted supply of petroleum products. The Power Minister Shri R. Kumaramangalam, has directed the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited to put at the disposal of the Gujarat Electricity Board its services, equipment and personnel for emergency restoration on transmission lines. Hon'ble Home Minister, Shri L.K. Advani is visiting the affected areas in Gujarat to review the relief and rehabilitation measures.